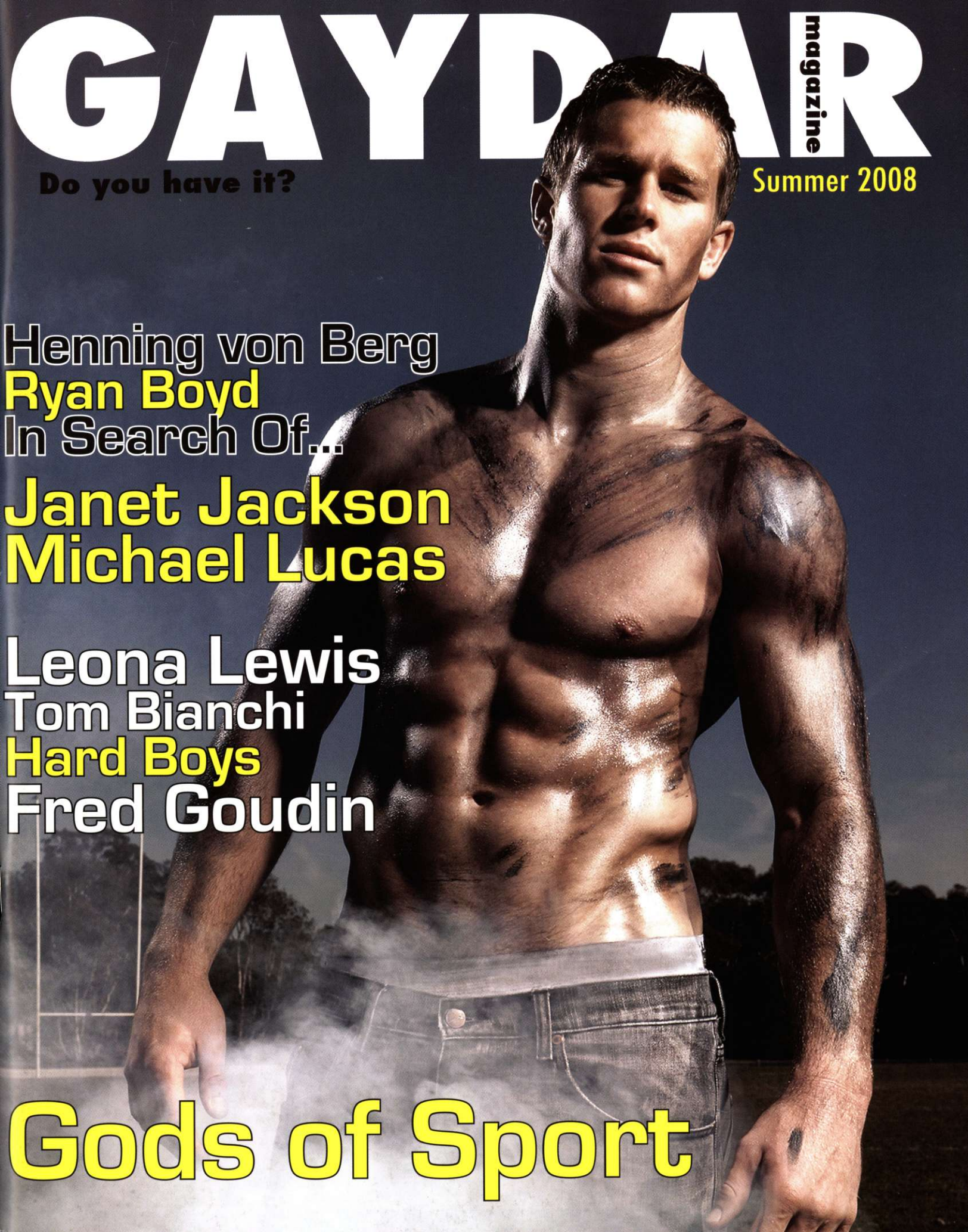


GAYDAR

A full-page photograph of a muscular man with dark skin and numerous tattoos on his chest, arms, and torso. He is shirtless, wearing light-colored jeans, and looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. The background is a dark, hazy outdoor scene, possibly a field or park, with some trees visible in the distance. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the contours of his muscles and the details of his tattoos.

Do you have it?

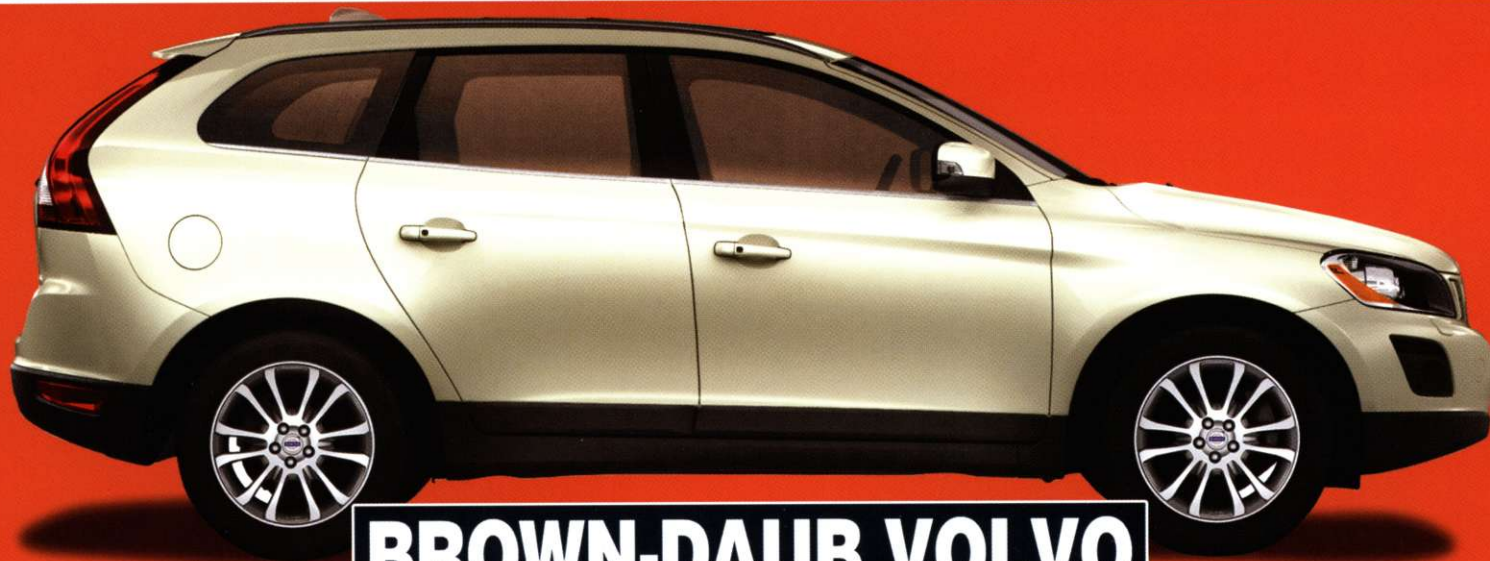
Summer 2008

Henning von Berg
Ryan Boyd
In Search Of...

Janet Jackson
Michael Lucas

Leona Lewis
Tom Bianchi
Hard Boys
Fred Goudin

Gods of Sport



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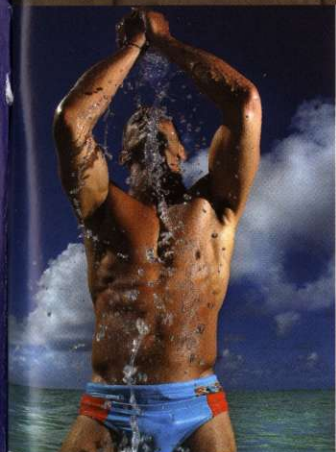
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Photo courtesy of Ryan Boyd

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Summer LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



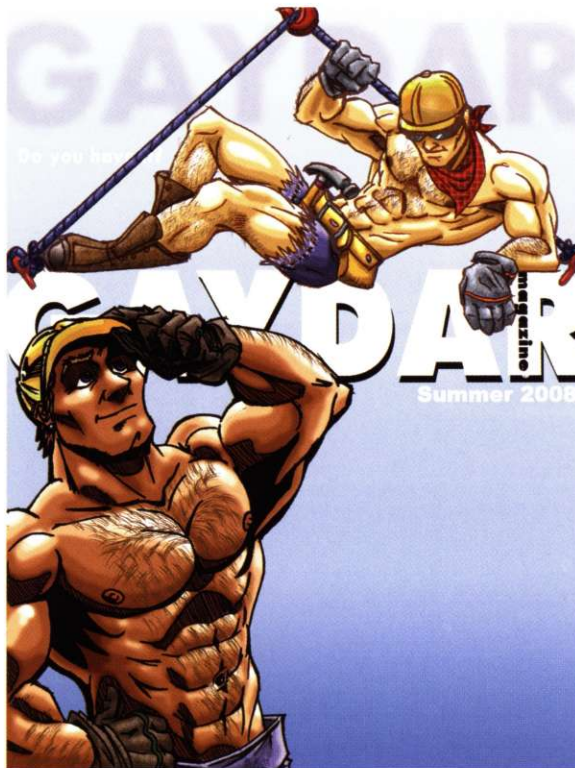
Gary & I with Sean Astin when he was stumping for Hillary at the April TakeOver at Bacio

have a contest or what not. Then I glanced over at my very patient and tolerant and supportive boyfriend who spends most weekends and evenings doing nothing so that I can work on putting this puppy together in my free time. He's 25. I'm 102. We've got to get out there while he can still push my wheelchair down the boardwalk. I hinted at this in the last issue but the feedback was so positive from the last issue I thought I can still do this and work a 40+ hr a week job. I want and need to do other things. For the sake of my relationship and the sake of my sanity you are holding the final issue of Gaydar Magazine.

Three and half years have passed since I started this venture with my friend Jan. It's been an exciting ride. And there are many people who made this publication possible. First the contributors without whom you would be looking at blank pages. Next the advertisers. If it were not for them this dream would never have made it to paper and would exist only in my head. The glbtqia people from the Lehigh Valley community who never hesitated to stop and ask "how is the magazine going?" and also came out to support our many fundraisers for the various GLBT non-profits. The agents who grant us interviews with the celebrities and models. The artists and writers who share so graciously of their souls with our readers. The designers who saved my ass after that first issue I created in Word! (Ironically still our best seller) The booksellers who opted to carry it on their shelves. The people who cared enough to give constructive criticism along the way. I always thank my family, friends and Gary. They are the ones who

Hey Guys, What's up with the hot, albeit illustrated construction workers, taking down the Gaydar Magazine logo? Long story short, I was made aware that we are using an already established name. Oops! My first thought was to change the name,

have to deal with me. They should be compensated monetarily. I would love to pass the baton. Seriously, I would love to be in a parade and pass a baton. Not really. But I think someone should pick up on this and run with it. And, I have a great name for a new magazine: Last Call. You're welcome.



So many great memories associated with this experience. Meeting my grade school crush Olivia Newton-John. A hi-profile interviewee outed Jodie Foster to me in confidence. (Big secret!!) But one of my favorite memories was an email from a man who said after purchasing a copy of Gaydar Magazine and seeing that it was produced here in the Lehigh Valley he got up the nerve to go to a gay bar for the first time and met a man who he is still dating. If there had been no other joys from this experience it would have been worth it for that email alone. However the joys were plentiful.

I'd like to acknowledge Michael Wright for his design talent and the wonderful advertisers in this issue. Please frequent them or at least contact them and let them know you

appreciate them advertising in a gay publication. While this issue is free, we still have some bills to pay so back issues of Gaydar Magazine are available for order. They are \$3.00 and can be purchased by contacting me at gaydarmagazine@hotmail.com or sending a check with the issues desired to:

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Allentown, PA 18104

The offer and email are good until October 2008.

Adoption Center Reaches Out to LGBT Community

Just before his 18th birthday, Sheldon got the gift he had been dreaming about for twelve years. He walked into Philadelphia Family Court with the two people who would that day become his official, legal parents.

"We were just slightly nervous," remembers his dad. "In the back of your mind is always the thought that maybe they'll figure out some reason we can't do this." But all went smoothly, and there was a party afterward for friends. Two months later, members of both parents' extended families were invited to a "Covenanting" ceremony where Doug Brunk and Lloyd Bowman wrote the words that were in their hearts and committed to being Sheldon's parents forever.

Brunk and Bowman are two of an increasing number of gay men and women who are adopting children who now live in foster care. Their son, Sheldon, now 19, was 17 when he came to live with them. They plan to adopt again.

The National Adoption Center, based in Philadelphia, is launching a program for members of the gay community to advise and support them as they consider adoption. The first information session was held on Tuesday, March 25 at the Philadelphia Foundation, 1234 Market Street, Suite 1800 at 5:30 and was sponsored by the Center and the Delaware Valley Legacy Fund. Sheldon's parents participated in the program.

While the Center, based in Philadelphia, has always welcomed gay men and women as candidates for adoption, it is now becoming proactive, encouraging those who may be considering adoption, but don't know how to begin, which adoption agency to approach and how to get the support they need during the adoption process.

"Sheldon is one of our board members," says Perry Monastero, executive director of DVLF. "We incubated the LGBT community assessment project of the City of Philadelphia and The Philadelphia Foundation," he says. "One important finding uncovered by

Chris Bartlett and his team at the Philadelphia Health Management Corporation is that 29% of households surveyed has a child in the home. Sheldon comes from one of those households."

There are 114,000 children throughout the country living in foster care who wait to be adopted; 1600 are living in the Delaware Valley. Most children are school age and many, like Sheldon, are teenagers who still hope for a permanent family. Since 1972, the Center has helped find families for more than 21,000 children.

"Members of the LGBT community are important resources for our children," says Ken Mullner, Adoption Center executive director. "We want them to know that they are welcome as potential adoptive parents and urge them to attend."

For additional information, contact Suzanne Keller at 215-735-9988, ext. 311 or skeller@nacenter.adopt.org

LV

RESOURCE

GUIDE

The Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus

Through excellence in the choral arts, the LVGMC strives to shatter stereotypes, promote awareness of gay issues, and provide a setting where people are accepted for who they are. We use our voices and presence in the Lehigh Valley to entertain, and promote understanding/tolerance. P.O. Box 20712, Lehigh Valley, PA, 18002/Phone: 610-366-3320 information@lvgmc.org

Rainbow Families helps to coordinate family friendly events and gatherings for GLBTA families with children. The group plans several events per year. Further planning information can be obtained through the Rainbow Families yahoo group -- <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LVRF>. Or you can email Rainbow Family leaders Donnie and Earl Snyder directly at donnieearlucas@msn.com

Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley will be celebrating their 15th year and as a volunteer non-profit organization, we are dedicated to providing a positive and welcoming atmosphere for the Lehigh Valley gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex community. Events such as the annual Pride in the Park celebration and programs like the Rainbow Scholarship promote diversity and open the dialogue necessary to continue the community's acceptance. Visit our website www.prideglv.org to find out more about our events and area community services.

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Pennsylvania Diversity Network (PDN)

- volunteer driven organization working daily for local GLBT rights, health and equality. Programs include: The Valley Gay Press Newspaper; GLBT Resource Website - www.padiversity.org; InfoPhone-line - 610-Help-123; Rainbow Families; Library Project, PDN's Photo Project - 200 Same-sex Couples; GLBT Speakers; Anti-discrimination Advocacy. 610-432-5449, info@padiversity.org

Kate Lynn, Esquire has served the legal needs of the LGBT community since 1987. Kate's paralegal is her life partner, Lori Mehl. You can reach us at the Law Offices of Kate Lynn P.C., 609 Hamilton Mall, Suite #15, Allentown, 18101, (610) 435-7770, kate@katelynnlaw.com or www.katelynnlaw.com.

The Gay and Lesbian Organized Sports Society (GLOSS)

provides its members the opportunity to participate in organized sports and social activities at all levels of interest and ability. Currently, GLOSS offers volleyball, tennis, racquetball, bowling, game nights, partner dancing and skiing. It's a great way for people to meet others in a fun and healthy environment.

Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley is a Christian Church where gender and sexual identities are affirmed as spiritual gifts. MCCLV is a long-time organizer of marriage equality actions in the Lehigh Valley and seeks to proclaim justice

for the excluded. The church is located in beautiful space at 930 North 4th Street in Allentown. For directions, see the church website at www.mcclv.org or phone MCCLV at 610-709-8800. E-mail messages can be sent to info@mcclv.org

Dignity of the Lehigh Valley - Outreach ministry to GLBT Catholics and their friends. Liturgy the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at 6 PM at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Allentown, PA. www.DignityLHV.blogspot.com. dignitylehighvalley@yahoo.com. Dignity offers GLBT Catholics an opportunity to integrate their spirituality with their sexuality and encourages active participation in the life of the Church and society.

Fighting AIDS Continuously Together- Staffed entirely by volunteers since its inception in 1986, in response to the AIDS crisis, FACT has raised over \$2 million dollars through grass-roots style events. FACT dollars go toward medical, housing, utilities, personal care, transportation and funeral expenses for those affected by AIDS in the Lehigh Valley and the Poconos. www.factlv.org info@factlv.org

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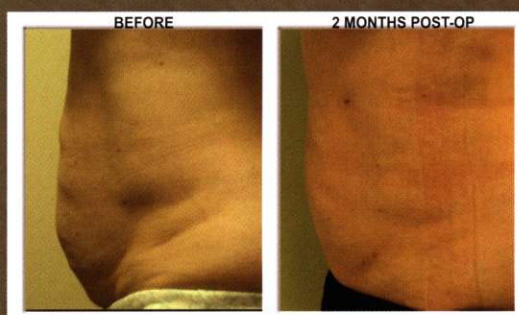


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8 Philadelphia, PA

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20-29 Toronto, Ont.

21-22 Baltimore, MD

22-29 New York City, NY

28-29 San Francisco, CA

29 Chicago, IL

July

20 Reading, PA

26 Harrisburg, PA

August

17 Lehigh Valley, PA

23 Jersey City, NJ

September

13 Rehoboth Beach, DE

13 Wilmington, DE

21 Dallas, TX

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**2008
PrideFest
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6 GAYDAR



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Turned On?

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INTERVIEW BY STEPHEN LIBBY

I've known him for years, but never knew he had a fetish for switchplates. I knew he was a wanker. And he reads Gaydar. Consider yourself warned. Turn it on. Turn it on again.



appearance of a switch plate. I spent a number of weeks trying different media and we're now at the stage where we can produce a switch plate or outlet cover in all the commercially available configurations, but with the added benefit that they a) don't have to be small; they can be any size you want, up to 8" x 15" - we're thinking outside the electrical box; b) you have a massive choice of over 30,000 images; and c) you can even upload your favorite photo on our website and we'll make a switch plate out of it, to your exact size spec.

We're going to have a booth at Mayfair, too, FYI.

GM: Do you do special or custom orders and how/where can people order them?

PH: The website should be up by the end of the month, so yes, we do special and custom orders - everything is handmade and comes with a choice of frame color. If someone needs a custom size to incorporate two different outlets at different heights, or an outlet and a dryer vent or something like that, we can do that, too.

switchplateshop.com

Gaydar Magazine: How did you come up with the idea for switch plate covers?

Phil Healing: We were (still are) in the middle of a major kitchen renovation and we have a pretty comprehensive mosaic tile installation. The mosaic is intentionally uneven and as a result we needed something non-standard in the way of switch and outlet covers. I looked for a long time on the internet, only to find how limited the choices were. So, I decided to make my own. As I was searching for images, I realized that there shouldn't be a limit on the size and

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Janet, Jackson

Miss if you're Nasty



In a relaxed one-on-one chat, a jovial Jackson dished on her gay friend "Keisha," celebrity girl-crush and hip-hop world homophobia before giving the greatest advice of all: how to battle a "Madonna" drag queen.

What can Janet's gay fans expect from the new album, *Discipline*?

What's in it for the children? The kids! [Laughs] I know they love to dance—that's what it is. There's "Rock With You," a house song, which everyone's seemed to have fallen in love with—even the kids in Europe.

At what point in your career did you know you had a gay following?

I think it showed its face more to me, or maybe I realized it more, when I did "Together Again"...

What album was that?

That was 1997's *The Velvet Rope*! Thank you very much for knowing my own work! [Laughs] I don't ever really remember saying, "I've got a pretty nice gay following," or "The children are really into me." I never thought about it.

Do you have many gay people in your inner circle?

Yeah, I do.

Who is the closest gay person to you?

His name is Gil, and we've been best friends for about 11 years. He's a creative director and one of

the choreographers that I work with as well.

What are your thoughts on gay marriage?

I'm all for it. Why not? It's two people that are in love with one another. What's the issue?

Who would be your celebrity girl-crush?

You know who I think is flawless? Alicia Keys. I think she's absolutely beautiful, such a sweetheart, down to earth. So maybe Alicia Keys.

I'm not sure if you're aware of this, but there's an Internet war between Janet and Madonna fans.

I know you and Madonna had some beef in the '90s, but do you think the heat between Madonna and Janet fans has any validity?

No—I didn't know this was going on. [Laughs]

They argue, make videos and, of course, it's mostly the gay fans. People are curious: What are your thoughts on Madonna now?

I think she's done wonderful things. She's done great things in her career, in her life, and more power to her. I think fans will always be that way—always. They're just incredibly loyal and they love you so much that if anyone says anything remotely negative, they're there to just immediately jump on them. It'll always be that way—very loyal.

If a "Janet" drag queen had to battle a "Madonna" drag queen, what advice would you give the Janet drag queen?

Kick the bitch's ass!

www.janetjackson.com

Janet Jackson's *Discipline* (Island) is out

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5/2-5/4 Opening Weekend Celebration - Welcome home! Cinco de Mayo Elender Party!

5/9-5/11 Retro 80's Weekend - Relive the 80's poolside and in our disco.

5/16-5/18 Bears at The Woods I - Got that fussy thing going on? Leigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus performance!

5/23-5/26 Memorial Day Holiday Weekend - Annual cocktail dress block party. Michael Sherer performs!

5/30-6/1 White Party Weekend - Light your site with white! Tightly Whitey and Black Leather Party. White Block party on Saturday! AIDS fundraising weekend.

6/6-6/8 Country Western Weekend I - Howdy! Learn and dance the two-step and line dances! Free camp admission for the ladies to attend the Lesbian Social event!

6/13-6/15 Motorcycle - Leather I - Show your stuff in your hot leather! Woods Riders motorcycle run. Pavilion leather party.

6/20-6/22 Summer Solstice Weekend - Celebrate the official beginning of Summer! Beach party Jam! Clam bake and picnic! Leigh Valley Takeover event!

6/27-6/29 Hawaiian / Tropical Party / Cocktail Tour - Party like our friends in the Islands! Woods Whitewater Rafting trip!

6/30-7/3 Vacation Week - Who says The Woods should only be enjoyed on the weekend? Take a few extra days off work and extend your stay.

7/3-7/6 4th of July Holiday Weekend (Thur - Sun) - Celebrate your independence at The Woods! Saturday evening stage production. Bring your boots and cowboy hat for some two steppin' on Friday night!

7/11-7/13 Bears at The Woods II - Grrrr! Have fun at the Meat and Grreet gathering! Evening candlelit swim! Dinner Theatre performance!

7/18-7/20 Off-Season Holiday Weekend - Friday: St. Patrick's Day Green Party; Saturday Evening: Mardi Gras Block Party; Saturday Night: New Years Eve Celebration!

7/25-7/27 Christmas in July Weekend - Decorate your site for Christmas! Watch that mistletoe! Light Tour Party! Woods Whitewater Rafting trip.

8/1-8/3 Summer Gaymes Weekend - Wacky Olympics competition and Homemade Raft Race on the lake!

8/8-8/10 Illumination Weekend - Use candles. Use lights. Use your creativity. There's no way to describe the beauty of The Woods campsites during Illumination.

8/15-8/17 Motorcycle - Leather II - Show your stuff in your hot leather garb! Woods Riders motorcycle run.

8/22-8/24 Foam Party Weekend - Nothing like good clean party fun! For a party to be wet and wild, it's got to be foamy!

8/29-9/1 Labor Day Holiday Weekend - One of our biggest weekends! Don't miss the Sunday evening stage production. Adult Toy Bingo! Annual camp fund Chinese Auction. Woods Whitewater Rafting trip!

9/5-9/7 70's Retro Disco Weekend, Drag Show & Pageant - Shake your booty 70's style! Disco Drag Show & Miss Woods Pageant! Wine & Cheese Party

9/12-9/14 Bears at The Woods III - It will be a September to remember! Pig Roast at the Meat and Grreet gathering!

9/19-9/21 Country Western Weekend II - Howdy partner! Learn and dance the two-step and some cool line dances! Flea Market & Plant Sale. Chili cook off!

9/26-9/28 Motorcycle - Leather Weekend III - Mr. & Ms. Woods Leather competition. Stay warm in your full leather garb! Join the Woods Riders motorcycle "last chance" run.

10/3-10/5 Family & Friends Weekend - Enjoy The Woods camping experience with your family members and friends! Minors allowed with parent or legal guardian. No public nudity please. A big turnout is expected! Join the fun!

10/10-10/12 Bears at The Woods IV - It's a Fall Fur Fest! It's a last chance gathering for Bears, Cubs, Chubs and Admirers!

10/17-10/19 Oktoberfest / Bier Garten Party & Slide Show / Oktoberfest Dinner! The trees colors are at their peak! Celebrate another season of community with your camp family and friends! Home Brewers and Wine Maker Tasting. 2008 Camp Season slide show!

10/24-10/26 Halloween Weekend - Our closing weekend is one of our best! Halloween costume party is a sight to see! Prizes for best costumes! Haunted hayride & psycho-path. Pet costume runway competition.

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GAY MUSIC ICONS etc.

GAY
MUSIC
ICONS
etc.

BY PHIL HEALING
PHOTO BY WILLIAM BAKER

I bet you love your music. On your iPod, your Edison Phonograph, your PC, or your 8-track - it's a window for us to see into each other's hearts. Being gay and completely into anything musical, a happy melody was the kiss of life for me from the start. As a spotty teen, everything is so intense, and the feeling of my loins stirring was dovetailing beautifully with the music I couldn't live without - all those unbeknownst-to-me gay icon up-and-comers such as Elton John, Marc Bolan, Freddie Mercury, Abba, Olivia Newton John, Barry Manilow, David Bowie - even Charlie's Angels fancied themselves as recording artists; who could miss

The Village People - and that Singing Nun? Whoa, now that's talent, baby.

Well, the disco era came and went, and left behind a trail of utter fabulousness that included Aretha Franklin, Donna Summer, Sylvester, Diana Ross, Patti Labelle, The Bee Gees and poor dead Andy, Barry White, The Pointer Sisters, Gloria Gaynor and Chic - and anyone else that put on a big wig and flaunted it.

As I minced into my early twenties, more and more of my friends were seriously into music and the best music I had ever heard was on the radio. I started to buy records and CDs with aplomb. I discovered Kate

Bush, Boy George, **Kylie**, Wham!, Pet Shop Boys, Joan Jett, Madonna, Patti Smith, Frankie Goes To Hollywood, Latoya and Janet - and that brother, Chaka Khan [old thunder thighs], Tina Turner, Prince, Marc Almond, Jimmy Somerville, Grace Jones and her unforgettable scowl. And how about Divine? Do we have a steaming poo category?

After a period of knowing it all, I started to realize there had been gay icons in music previous to that wondrous moment when I arrived on the planet. I unearthed all sorts of goodies for my ears - uh-oh, here we go: Judy, and if you say Judy who, turn in your card right now. Barbra, Marlene, Ethel, Edith, Julie, Patsy,

Perfect Gay Mix for Your I-Pod

Cher - and I might even be so bold as to include (dare I say it) second stringers like Liza, Bette (Midler, not Davis - fasten your seatbelts, it's gonna be a bumpy list), Shirley Bassey, Carmen Miranda, Dusty Springfield, Blossom Dearie (eh?) - Connie Francis, Carol Channing, Peggy Lee - hold on - where are the hot men in all this? We have Little Richard and Liberace, what do you mean?

Once I got to 30, I was starting to really feel the pulse of what gay and gay icons were all about. There were people who just didn't fit in - that was their appeal, somehow. Good luck with these - worth a try, so to speak - Yma Sumac, Klaus Nomi, Mari Wilson, Marilyn Manson, Pia Zadora, Morrissey, Sparks, Rammstein, Lou Reed, HIM, and don't forget Josie and The Pussycats.

And how gay are 'N Sync, Menudo, Clay Aiken, NKOTB and Boyz II Men? No, I mean, are they? Icons. Who can say? At least we got Ricky Martin out of the deal. How do you milk one mildly idiotic song and become iconic? Ask Right Said Fred.

Easy listening was not high on my list - I was force fed some of this crap from my dad - but, as we all know, we're everywhere. It's hard to miss people like Celine Dion, Harry Connick Jr., Dolly Parton, Stevie Nicks, Dionne Warwick, Johnny Mathis, Harry Belafonte, Billy Holliday and Mariah Carey.

I'd like to mention in passing those that aren't really music icons, but off the top of my head, they're here due to their big -er- personalities. Elaine Stritch, who just won't die and we're glad, Tallulah Bankhead, Joan Collins, Bette Davis, Mae West, Barbara Stanwyck, Ann Margaret, Joan Crawford and Josephine Baker. Does Bernadette Peters go here? I have no idea.

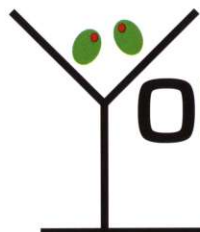
Should we nod to the relatively old, relatively fabulous? How about RuPaul, Rufus Wainwright, REM, George Michael without the toilet incident, k.d. Lang, Erasure, Indigo Girls, Annie Lennox (without the dude) and Macy Gray.

Relatively new, relatively fab? Pink, Justin (you know who), Christina, Bed, Bath and Beyonce, Puppini Sisters (check 'em out), Placebo, Anne Hathaway, Scissor Sisters and squealing Mika.

And as I get to write the list, here's me forcing it down your throat - Panic! At The Disco, Amy Winehouse - oh, that's enough. When you're as old as I am, you'll be picky, too.

Phil Healing - artist, engineer, mental case: Came to the US from jolly-old in 92 and immediately came out. Got married to Kindall in England in 2006, got married again to Kindall in Canada in 2007. One country to go. Loves music, dogs, singing, cooking, making art. Launching a website business - switchplateshop.com. Drinks like a fish, likes a laaahf and has a good heart and a questionable liver.

dancing queen - abba
i will survive - gloria gaynor
i'm coming out - diana ross
can't take my eyes off you - boystown gang
ymca - village people
go west - pet shop boys
it's raining men - weather girls
you make me feel mighty real - sylvester
crucified - army of lovers
i'm too sexy - right said fred
supermodel - ru paul
tainted love - soft cell
slave to the rhythm - grace jones
smalltown boy - bronski beat
macho man - village people
shoot your shot - divine
i was made for dancin' - leif garrett
get dancin' disco -tex and the sex-o-lettes
i am what i am - gloria gaynor
never can say goodbye - communards
believe - cher
i feel love - donna summer
lay all your love on me - erasure
yes sir, i can boogie - baccara
i love the nightlife - alicia bridges
atomic - blondeie
we are family - sister sledge
vogue - madonna
you spin me round - dead or alive
relax - frankie goes to hollywood
ring my bell - anita ward
wake me up before you go-go - wham!
i'm every woman - chaka khan
no more tears (enough is enough) - barbra streisand
sand and donna summer
heaven must be missing an angel - tavares
over the rainbow - judy garland
100% pure love - crystal waters
sisters are doing it for themselves - aretha franklin and eurythmics
high energy - evelyn thomas
born to be alive - patrick hernandez
night fever - bee gees
copacabana - barry manilow
i turn to you - melanie c
total eclipse of the heart - nicki french
grace kelly - mika
sexyback - justin timberlake
toxic - britney spears
beautiful - christina aguilera
karma chameleon - culture club
billie jean - michael jackson
can't get you outte my head - kylie minogue
xanadu - olivia newton-john & elo
since u been gone - kelly clarkson
my secret love - doris day
i feel pretty - west side story
nobody's supposed to be here - deborah cox
sexual - amber
my love is your love - whitney houston
dive in the pool - barry harris
filthy & gorgeous - scissor sisters
i've never been to me - charlene



YOU ARE WHAT YOU DRINK

cocktails for your summer soiree

BY GARY GAUGLER JR.

The Butch

The Bearded Boy

(Ingredients: Southern Comfort, Vodka, Grain alcohol, Water)

The Cowboy

The Wild, Wild, West

(Ingredients: Jack Daniels, Peach schnapps, Cranberry juice)

The Bear

The Hairy Happy Trail

(Ingredients: Orange juice, Vodka, Red Rum, Lemon liqueur, Lime juice)

The Bottom

The Legspreader

(Ingredients: Midori melon liqueur, Malibu rum, Pineapple juice, 7-Up)

The Top

The Hole In One

(Ingredients: Scotch, Vermouth, Lemon juice, Orange bitters)

The Versatile

Long Island Iced Tea, it's got everything
(Ingredients: Vodka, Tequila, Rum, Gin, Triple sec, Sour mix, Coca-Cola)

The Closet Case

Deep, Dark Secret

(Ingredients: Dark rum, Añejo rum, Kahlua, Heavy cream)

The Priest

Holy Water

(Ingredients: Vodka, Triple sec, Light rum, Tonic water, Grenadine)

The Drag Queen

Pink Lady

(Ingredients: Gin, Grenadine, Light cream, Egg white)

The Lipstick Lesbian

The Girlie Martini

(Ingredients: Dry Vermouth, Vodka, Champagne, Maraschino liqueur)

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"Take Over Lehigh Valley"
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Drink Specials | Live DJ
Complementary H'ors D'oeuvres

Saturday, August 16th

On the patio, 12pm to 4pm
"Yappy Hour"

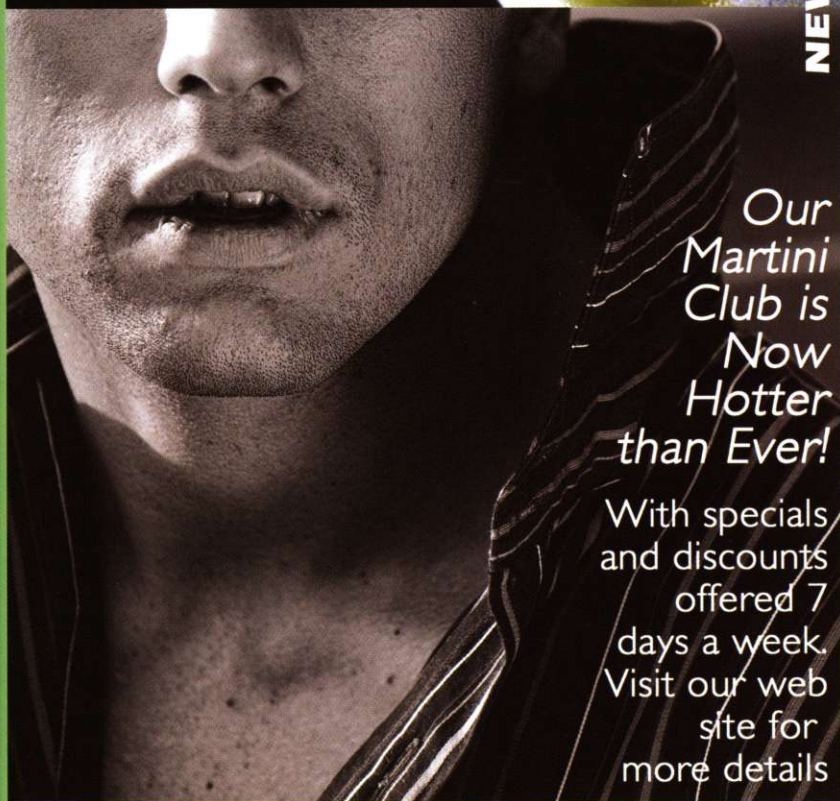
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to enjoy barkery treats while
sipping margaritas!

8 pm to 10 pm
"Battle of the
Brew Works Bartenders"
Join Mario, Jeffrey, Bridgette &
Bev. Cheer on your favorite.
DJ - 9 pm to 1 am

Sunday, August 17th

"Tea Dance" on the patio
after the festivities
1 pm to 10 pm - DJ in Silk

Acoustic on the Patio
Gay Bingo | Patio Games



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Liz Bradbury

Angel Food and Devil Dogs

As private detective Maggie Gale works to prove the innocence of a mentally challenged pinball wizard who's been arrested for murder, she is called to college president Max Bouchet's office to discuss the suspicious suicide of a gay professor. There, Maggie shakes hands with the attractive Dr. Kathryn Anthony, who smiles at her with a faint but unmistakable touch of lust. Maggie is hired and meets a collection of quirky suspects, one of whom might just be a murderer. Maggie's humorous and caring friends and family support her as she works against escalating danger, and toward escalating romantic encounters with Kathryn. Will Maggie untangle both mysteries? Will the sexual tension swirling around Maggie and Kathryn pull them together? Or will the murderer target Maggie before she gets either chance?

Gaydar caught up with Liz as she found a free moment between running the GLBT community organization Pennsylvania Diversity Network and working on her next novel.

GM: I've had the chance to read *Angel Food and Devil Dogs*, and I loved it! It's both a classic who-done-it style mystery and a hot lesbian romance. Who could ask for anything more?! What made you to write it?

LB: I love mysteries and have been reading them forever, but I've just never found one that had the kind of characters I could really relate to on a personal level. So I created a private detective who was a lesbian, and made the plot as much about her unraveling her current case, as about the sparks between her and a woman she meets while working on the case. The people that surround her are the kinds of friends a lesbian would have. I've tried to



make her the type of person GLBT readers would want to have as a friend.

GM: Private Eye Maggie Gale seems very sure of herself. Did you do that on purpose?

LB: I've tried to make Maggie a character or even on some level a hero that lesbian readers might identify with or aspire to be. She's smart, she's in great shape, she's a good friend, she has interesting hobbies... but I don't think Maggie is sure of herself all the time, she's a skilled investigator and she knows it, but she has personal doubts just like all of us. I did consciously make her sure of her sexual orientation and her attraction to Kathryn, because I really hate it that so many contemporary writers feel they have to make lesbian characters so flawed and angst ridden.

GM: Too many books have weak lesbian characters?

LB: Way too many novels and movies cast the lesbian character as someone with crippling addictions, or horribly low self esteem that's based in internalized homophobia. Being a lesbian is an important part of Maggie Gale's life, but constantly questioning whether it's OK to be a lesbian is not a problem for her. She's way past that. She doesn't struggle with personal demons when she realizes she's attracted to Kathryn. Maggie just plans out what might be the best way to ask her for a date and get her... in the mood... (laughs)... and because the book is in first person, the reader gets to follow Maggie's train of thought, which can be pretty funny at times. With the exception of "Tipping the Velvet," by Sarah Waters, which I loved, I just haven't found any lesbian novels that deal with sex and romance in the positive way mainstream novels do. Meaning that too often in lesbian novels the...um...consummation of the encounter is skipped over. I read a lesbian mystery once where the entire first encounter sex scene consisted of the sentence, They made love. I wanted to create an interesting mystery where the lesbian romantic tension goes somewhere exciting and real.

GM: It sure does that! There were parts of this book that were so hot... I couldn't have quit reading if a fire truck had run into the house!

LB: Thanks, that's what I was aiming for! But I don't want anyone to misunderstand. It's not just erotica. It has two intricate mystery plots that weave together with some really interesting characters. The romantic situations are a tight part of the story.

GM: How did you get the ideas for the characters and the location?

LB: I like strong, funny characters. Maggie's friends and family are like that... supportive and caring but wisecracking and direct. I think that's a great part of the GLBT community, that we so often have friendships that fuel and sustain us. There are also the suspects and others in Maggie's community. Since this is the first book of the series, I fleshed out a lot of the people in her life. For character ideas, I make them all up. I sometimes start with TV and movie characters as the very basic inspirations and then make up changes and embellishments that the plot requires. The location is a very modified version of Allentown with huge alterations of locations and additions of institutions and businesses. Irwin College of Art and Architecture is made up.

GM: So there are going to be more novels about these characters? It's part of a series?

LB: Yes, I'm working on the next books in the series right now. The titles of the books map out the series. This one is *Angel Food and Devil Dogs*, beginning with A, the next one is *Being the Steel Drum Man*. The third one is C-notes and Ski-nose. The titles progress alphabetically.

GM: Like the Kinsey Millhone or the Stephanie Plumb series?

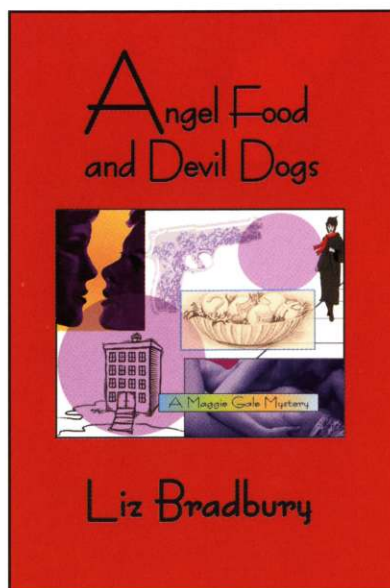
LB: Yes, but my titles refer to the actual stories.

GM: Where can people buy this book?

LB: I'll be doing some book release parties around the area and people can buy the book at those. Twenty percent of the net profit from the sales of these books goes to local GLBT support and advocacy organizations. I'll be marketing this novel up and down the East Coast. Any GLBTA group that hosts a reading or a book signing will receive 20% of the sales revenue from that event. Also people can buy it direct from the publisher at www.boudicapublishing.com or through Amazon - but buying it through Boudica Publishing brings more donated money to the GLBT community.

GM: Hey, thanks for talking to us...now, get back to work on your next book!

LB: I'm on it!





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Robert Leleux

the memoirs of a beautiful boy

Interview by Stephen Libby



Gaydar Magazine: Why is there a young boy standing next to Dolly Parton on the cover of your book, *The Memoirs of a Beautiful Boy*?

Robert Leleux: The answer to your question reveals a life-long secret that I've decided to break exclusively to the readers of Gaydar Magazine.

Dolly Parton is my mother.

Or maybe it's just that my mother would love to be Dolly Parton.

Or maybe it's just that I would love to be Dolly Parton.

That really is my mother and me on the cover. Isn't she gorgeous? She quotes Dolly all the time, saying "Robert, it takes a lot of money to look this cheap," and "There is no such thing as natural beauty." So, you see, they're two different women who worship at the same church.

GM: Is "beautiful boy" a nickname or a self-title?

RL: Neither. It's a joke. Only, it's getting less funny all the time. I think people show up at my readings, take one look, and leave terribly disappointed, their illusions shattered.

GM: Did you return the favor and read Celia Rivenbark's *Stop Dressing Your Six Year Old Like a Skank*? And, how would dress a six year old?

RL: I love all of Celia Rivenbark's hilarious books, and I'd already laughed my backside off reading them by the time she wrote that sweet, sweet blurb. And someday, I hope to dress my own six year old in a school uniform—along the lines of the green jumper, white shirt, and Mary Janes. Even if it's a girl. I think Celia would approve, but I'll be sure to ask her when the time comes.

GM: What's been the most important thing that your mother has intentionally taught you? You know where this is going...What's been the most important thing she unintentionally taught you?

RL: One of the very greatest things about my mother is that she has no subliminal messaging system. So I think that the lessons she's been blaring through her megaphone for the past twenty-something years have been...

1. If you follow all the rules, you'll miss all the fun.
2. If you stand for anything, some jerk will throw a tomato at you.
3. This isn't a road trip you can make without a map—you've got to have some kind of visionary plan for your life.
4. It really is easier to say I'm sorry than to ask permission.
5. And who cares, anyway?

GM: How have your dreams changed since you were a young boy?

RL: I think my personal growth is stunted. Because I'm still interested in ALL the same things that interested me when I was fourteen years old. A friend told me it's because I'm a man, and all men

secretly reach their evolutionary peak at fourteen. But could that really explain why I'm still watching Terms of Endearment all these years later?

GM: What one thing do you hope your students take from you?

RL: All I'd like to like to pass on to any young person is the idea that we're all precious and unique; that nobody is an extra in this movie; that there's a fine and mysterious reason why you're sitting in your particular chair, and not in the next one over. Oh, and that the only thing anybody has to offer this world is their point of view—so you'd better get one, pronto. Isn't that insufferably preachy? Don't I sound like a new-age asshole?

GM: Describe a day in your life.

RL: I have a friend who, when you ask her about her day, starts with, "First I woke up." So, "first, I wake up," and then, I consume obscene amounts of caffeine, and then, I get to the computer as fast as I can, to try to string three words together that I actually like. In the meantime, I gossip, FOR HOURS, over the telephone with my best friends Jessica and Jule and Ello, and then, I usually go pick Michael, my beautiful husband, up from work. Then we watch Desperate Housewives or Ugly Betty, or something else that will lull my mind into that wonderful mashed potato state that I love so much.

Robert's Top 10 Landmark Gay Books:

Well, you can't not say:

- 1) *The Well of Loneliness* by Radclyffe Hall
- 2) *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde
- 3) *Maurice* by E.M. Forster
- 4) *The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas* by Gertrude Stein
- 5) *Giovanni's Room* by James Baldwin
- 6) *Rubyfruit Jungle* by Rita Mae Brown

I know, I know, here's all those books you went to college with. And, boy howdy, don't they all look long on the hard work and short on the good time. But this is the unexpected comfort you can receive from reading all those "Important" gay books of the past: the powerful, visceral, they-can't-take-that-away-from-you realization that we've always been here, and we've always loved each other. Maybe you know that already—but trust me, you'll get it on a whole new soul-singing level once you've read these books. You'll get the history of a community that's not supposed to have a history—and the great news is that so much of it's really beautiful and inspiring. Also, for the rebels among you, it'll be a comfort

to know that what the Religious Right least wants you to do [next to joining the military, getting married, and having a baby] is becoming well-read in our oh, so dignifying literature.

Okay, and now for my own fun list. Here's some great books I love:

7) *Splendor* by Edward Swift

This is that One Great Book for me. You know, the one I could never have lived without. It's funny and beautiful and triumphant, and nobody even knows it exists. Read it for its beautiful writing, its gorgeous romance, or for plain ole fun.

8) *DV* by Diana Vreeland

This is happy-making to the extreme. It's also the best text book I know of on how to be a fabulous gay guy. You'll never feel chicer than after you've finished it. Tim Gunn who?

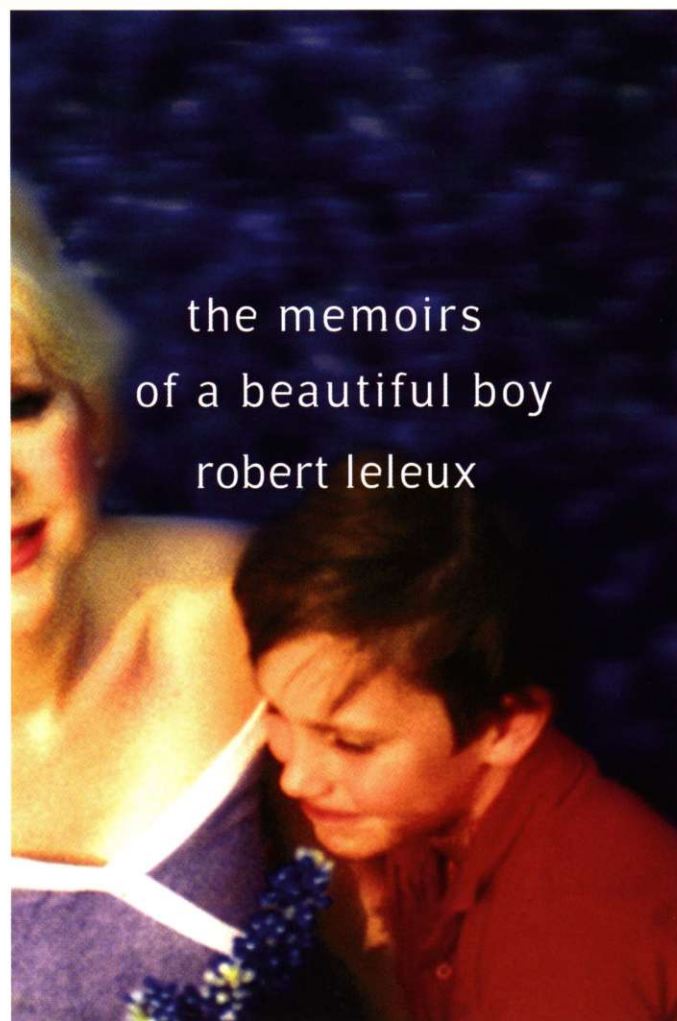
9) *Molly Ivins Can't Say That, Can She?* by Molly Ivins

No, she wasn't a lesbian, and she doesn't really belong on this list. I just adored her, and was heartbroken when she died, and this is the very best of all her books. You'll have a great time reading it, and I guarantee that you'll join me in celebrating this heroic funny lady's life—a life spent pissing off everybody who's trying to give us gay folks a black eye.

10) *The Member of the Wedding* by Carson McCullers

This book gets my vote for the all-time great novel of childhood. It's SOOOO beautiful and kind-hearted and sweet. It's super gay, and so lovely!

And ohhhhh, I just can't help myself. Be sure to give Auntie Mame, Music for Chameleons, Christopher & His Kind, Howard's End, and I Look Divine a chance.



the memoirs
of a beautiful boy
robert leleux

BENJAMIN RUTH

The REBEL
Interview by Stephen Libby

Ben is a local gay artist who recently donated some of his work to the Sisterhood event that was held at Di-amonz in an effort to raise money for Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley. He grew up in the small country village just west of Allentown known as New Smithville and, though he has done design work for community theater and published some material in the past without much notice, the Jo Phillips and comic book influenced images donated to the charity event did turn a few heads and garner him some attention. This 27 year old aspiring comic book illustrator currently resides in Kuhnsville, PA and works on his art mostly in his free time, as a hobby.



1. How old were you when you realized you had this talent?

I started drawing when I was pretty young, probably around 5 or 6. When I was a little kid I was heavily influenced by fantasy movies. I loved watching things like Jason and the Argonauts, Star Wars, and Dragons Slayer, so I would draw lots of wizards and dragons. When I was 13, I fell in love with the Saturday morning cartoon version of the popular X-Men comics. That's when I created my own logo (REBEL Comx) and began to design and write my own comic books. I based my characters on friends and the people around me. Only one character has ever been officially published, but I've created more than 200 characters and story lines, many of them involving LGBT characters or plots after I came out of the closet at 17. Some even take place right here in the Lehigh Valley.

2. What are the high points thus far in your artistic career?

Well, I've sold paintings and done design work for theaters on the side for years, sadly I don't get to do this professionally. But I guess the real highpoint was the children's book I illustrated in 2005. "Bandit to the Rescue" was written by a member of the custodial crew at my daytime job. She saw the doodles I had sitting around my desk and said she was writing this book and needed an illustrator. It took a while to get everything rolling but once I started on the images, I couldn't stop. I didn't get paid much for it and I don't think the book has even sold enough to make the author her money back. But it was definitely worth it just for the experience. I can look at this published piece of work and say, "That's mine. I did that."

3. Are your friends and family supportive of your art?

Very! My whole family is always trying to help me find new ways to get my work out there and get some publicity for my work. Many times, if there's a news article about some really strange or simple painting that sells for loads of money, my mom will just tell me, "Wow you are in the wrong business." Even managers and supervisors at my day job get into that. "What are you doing here?" they always ask me after seeing my draw at my desk.

4. Where do you hope to go from here? What would be your dream job?

Well I'm going to keep sending in sample pages to Marvel and DC, trying to get a job as a Penciler (the guy who just draws everything). I just ink and color my own stuff and projects cause I kind of have to. But comics usually have different people for each stage of illustration. Hopefully someone will give me a chance or even notice my stuff, thanks to this interview, and offer me some other work to do in the meantime. If anyone is interested they can contact me at REBELCOMX@yahoo.com. But in the end, what I really want to do is take the whole Stan Lee route. I'd really like to turn my own comic book label into a major company someday.

5. Who are the artists you look to for inspiration?

Well my tastes in art, as well as the styles I use for projects, are very eclectic. I adore Da Vinci and Van Gogh, but my styles are more influenced by modern comic book artists like Joe Kubert, Madureira, Humberto Ramos, Nick Bradshaw, and, of course, Joe Phillips.

For more information about Ben and his work please send him an e-mail: benjr59@aol.com or visit his Myspace page: <http://www.myspace.com/rebelcomx>



Top 20 Gay Icons

BY ROBERT CALLAN

Ok--This is my Count Down of the "Top Twenty Gay Icons." How were these twenty chosen? Why wasn't so-and-so on the list? What makes a Gay Icon? Wow, You ask a lot of questions. When I first began this daunting task--I came up with just over a hundred names. That was just too many. I knew that I would have to do some trimming. I decided to choose all female stars with many having careers that cross over into other types of media. And let's be honest--Who really knows what launches a celebrity into gay icon status? I don't think it matters. So, fasten your seat belts... These are my top twenty Gay Icons (AKA ideas for this year's Halloween costumes).

20. Megan Mullally(a.k.a. Karen Walker): This television and Broadway star first declined my invitation to be included in this count down--it's amazing what you can accomplish with a few martinis and a blank prescription pad.

19. Britney Spears: This Disney love child exploded on the pop music scene in the late 90's--Now she's just exploded--Or do I mean exploited?

18. Donna Summer: The Disco Diva that gave us the hit "Last Dance"--a theme song for last call at the bars.

17. Cyndi Lauper: This unusual girl taught the world that girls--and Mo's--just wanna have fun!

16. Dolly Parton: The buxom movie/country singing star has long confessed that if born a man--she would surely be a drag queen.

15. Sarah Jessica Parker: A "Square Peg" turned fashion celebrity--The star of stage and screen made the Cosmopolitan cocktail popular on

her hit show, *Sex and the City*--And for that she definitely deserves a place on the count down.

14. Kathy Griffin: The celebrity gossip guru has made a career by talking about people behind their backs--And on cable too! What homo wouldn't want to be one of her top gays?

13. Edie Beale: The reclusive Kennedy kin has been the subject of two

into the top ten.

9. Lucille Ball: A sex symbol turned comedian--She made us laugh on television for decades. Come on!--Everybody loves Lucy--especially the gays!

8. Madonna: Listed in the Guinness Book of World Records as "World's Most-successful Female Musician."

Now, what have we learned class?

Touching yourself will not make you go blind. If you do it on national television--it will make you go platinum!

7. Cher: Television Variety--Pop Singing Super Star--Academy

Award-winning Movie Actress--She has had more reincarnations than the Dalai Lama.

6. Bette Midler: From bath house, to Broadway, to motion pictures--She is the wind beneath all fairy wings!

5. Liza Minnelli: Daughter of a Hollywood legend--And now a legend in her own right (Sorry, Lorna).

4. Barbra Streisand: "Hello, Gorgeous!"

3. Bette Davis: One of American cinema's most celebrated actresses--She won two Academy Awards and often played unglamorous and sometimes unsympathetic characters. One of my personal favorites is

Aunt Charlotte in *Now, Voyager*!--a true coming out story.

2. Joan Crawford: Became a star by playing shop girls that make it good and get their

man--What gay boy can't relate to that? Later they labeled her

box-office poison--And that's not fair because even when she was bad--she was good. She left behind a string of cult classics that are very entertaining.

1. Judy Garland: "I wanted to believe, and I tried my damndest to believe in the rainbow that I tried to get over and I couldn't... I've sung, I've entertained, I've pleased your children, I've pleased your wives, I've pleased you... And you can't deny that!" No we can't, and that is why you're number one.



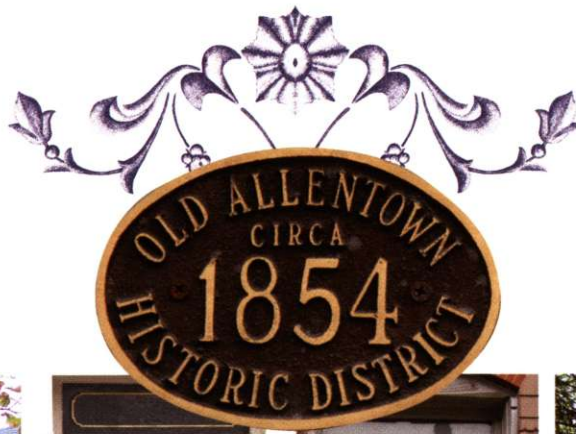
Author & Friend as #4 and #1. Check out <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cM9TGdOOEM> to watch the video

documentary films and a Tony Award-winning Broadway musical. Now that's a S-T-A-U-N-C-H woman!

12. Elizabeth Taylor: A brilliant actress and gay activist--She is real Hollywood royalty--Queen of the Fag Hags.

11. Julie Andrews: Our favorite singing governess, and cross-dressing cross-dresser!

10. Shirley MacLaine: Honorary "Brat Pack" member--Roles in such films as *Terms of Endearment* and *Steel Magnolias* helped her "twirl"



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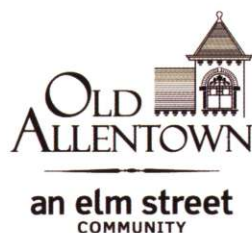
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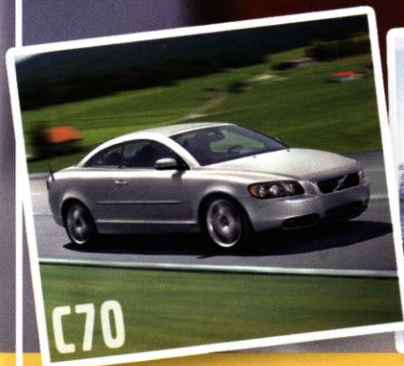
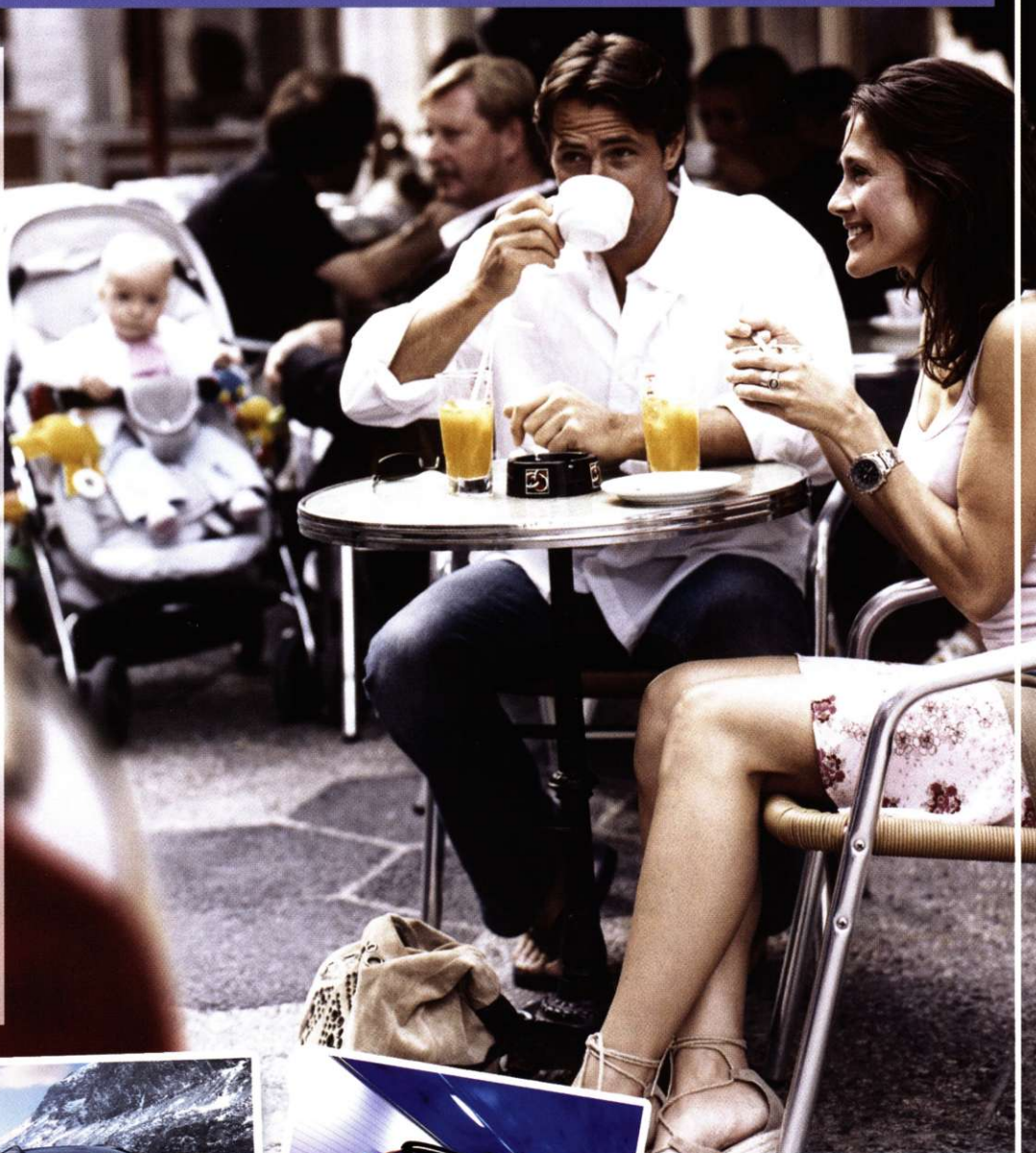
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Director Zeke Zelker asks actor **Mike Rady** some questions...

Zeke Zelker: So, what inspired you to take on the role of Jack?

Mike Rady: Well I really wanted to make a departure from roles I've played in the past. He was so different from every thing I am and believe in...I was scared of it, and I'm the type of person that has to take a stab at whatever scares me. That, and your high confidence in my being able to do it, I guess is what inspired it.

ZZ: What drew you to the character?

MR: the challenge to make sense of someone so scheming and devious and make it real for myself. And I think there's always a part of me that excited to live in that world and do the things that character does and not have to sort out and deal with the repercussions cause repercussions are pretty low on Jack's priority list.

ZZ: What drew you to the script?

MR: Everyone seemed to be in trouble and hurting and I liked that. I find tragedy fascinating because it's always all around us.

ZZ: What is it like to work me?

MR: I'd rather not say... hahah no, I look to a director for confidence. And your confidence was unbreakable and that really empowered me to make choices and take chances I normally wouldn't. Also, I found you to be the most interesting person I've ever met. What haven't you done?

ZZ: Since playing *Kostas in Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* has your dating life improved?

MR: Well, I've been with the same girl for a while now...BUT I have had a lot of hits on my MySpace page. My girlfriend is

regretting she ever insisted that I have one because it's all like 17 year old girls.

ZZ: Were you nervous being naked in *In Search Of?* I don't remember what I said to you to convince you to drop trow, do you remember?

MR: You know I don't even remember that being an issue, you may have made a joke about Sisterhood or something. But I'm fine with if it's for 'truth in story telling' purposes. And in independent films it generally is. It's just skin, we all have it. Plus, I wouldn't take a part that I wasn't comfortable with.

ZZ: Do you prefer to do indie films or Hollywood flicks?

MR: indie all the way

ZZ: What was the most memorable part of production for you?

MR: When I got to red-line that gorgeous Porsche Carrera out of the parking lot. And the biting oppressive cold.

ZZ: When you aren't acting what do you do to pass the time?

MR: I surf and play ultimate frisbee and piano and read and garden and cook with my girlfriend and watch a LOT of movies.

ZZ: What got you interested in acting?

MR: My mom always promoted performing with me. In grade school I did forensics and in High School I got into theater and that's where it really got into my bones. haha, I remember my mother dragged me kicking and screaming to my first theater audition in High school

ZZ: So What's your biggest career challenge?

MR: getting jobs.

ZZ: You've played a couple of gay characters, is there a stereotype?

MR: If there is I don't play it.

ZZ: Do you think you do well playing gay?

MR: OK Zelker, what are getting at here?

ZZ: Who's "gayer", you or I? Remember you own a pair of Uggs, I don't.

MR: Jeeze that sure sounds like you're assuming a stereotype...but ok I'll bite. Um, that's a tough one, because your pink shirts more that make up for the Uggs and even though I like musical theater, you've taken Ballet of your own free will.

ZZ: Where are you from?

MR: West Suburbs of Philadelphia, born and raised. Media, PA.

ZZ: What is your favorite place on earth?

MR: So far in my 26 years of living, Rome.

ZZ: What is your favorite time of day?

MR: Well I'm glad you ask, Zeke. My favorite time of day is early evening.

ZZ: What was my strangest direction?

MR: "Michael, jacket off!"

ZZ: What was your favorite thing about working with me?

MR: You wouldn't pay for a 1st AD

ZZ: What didn't you like about working with me?

MR: You wouldn't pay for a 1st AD

ZZ: How long have you been working on *In Search Of?* Why have you been so committed?

MR: Let's see...October 05 you gave me the script, 2 days later I was aboard, the financing fell through twice and we pushed shooting 3 times....so what is that, 3 years? I've stayed the course because you've believed in your vision so absolutely...that, and the monthly cash kickbacks you keep sending me.

In Search Of



sex

is why we're all here

Independent Dream Machine PRESENTS

AN ACQUISITION WITH 1204th FILMS

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Actor Mike Rady asks Director Zeke Zelker some questions...



Mike Rady: "What kind of name is Zeke Zelker?" That's what my mother said when I first told her about this film...so since we're on the subject, What kind of name is Zeke Zelker?

Zeke Zelker: Well some think its my porn name, but really I got it when my stepfather adopted me. His last name is Zelker and I almost immediately started to be called Zeke.

MR: What's the total tally of how long ISO has been a part of your life?

ZZ: Over ten years.

MR: You're a sick bastard for writing this thing, you know. Is any of ISO autobiographical?

ZZ: There are some parts that are, some that I would rather not identify, momma might read this.

MR: Which character do you think has the most Zeke Zelker in it?

ZZ: Besides the actresses that I slept with, every character. There are parts that represent me, good and bad.

MR: Where there any other ideas for a title?

ZZ: no. I always think in the lowest common denominator in terms of titles. If I'm making a film about sex, I'm going to name it In Search Of. We always seek it out, we always want it.

MR: How did I end up on your radar for the role of Jack?

ZZ: An amazing artist Todd DiCurucio put you on my radar. I fell in love with the challenge of dispelling the pretty boy myth. fell in love with your passion! You are an amazing talent.

MR: How old were you when you first realized you wanted to make movies, Where you one of those kids running around with a Super-8 camera trying to remake King Kong?

ZZ: The bug bit me when I was 23. I fell in love with the business behind the movies. I started out as an actor, as a kid I was in Hairspray. Because of my business background I was asked to produce a friends film, that's what sparked my passion.

MR: What inspires you to make films now?

ZZ: To challenge the way people think, to entertainment, to inspire ideas and provoke emotions.

MR: What films have left a mark on you? -keep that one clean Zelker-

ZZ: Cinema Paradiso, Baby Doll, Splendor in the Grass, Citizen Kane, Rebel Without a Cause, there are so many

MR: Do you prefer a movie where everyone dies or everyone lives?

ZZ: Some live some die. Death is a part of life.

MR: Do you plan on writing more movies?

ZZ: Yes, I'm working on a couple right now.

MR: Are you ever going to leave the Lehigh Valley?

ZZ: I will always have a house here.

MR: Where would you prefer to live NY or LA?

ZZ: Considering NYC is so close to A-town, LA.

MR: What's your take on indie vs Hollywood, do you think there is a middle ground and do you see yourself making films there?

ZZ: I am fiercely independent. If I can make people in the industry see may way, maybe we can partner.

MR: How many other careers have you dappled in?

ZZ: Jeez. I've been a clown, an actor, a dancer, an analyst, a restaurateur, a filmmaker, soon to be a developer. There has to be

MR: Are you a lover or a fighter?

ZZ: I'm smart enough to

know when to love and to fight. I like both.

MR: Are you afraid of anything?

ZZ: Not at all.

MR: Dog or Cat?

ZZ: Both

MR: Do you see yourself ever settling down with a wife and kids?

ZZ: Someday.

MR: Where is your favorite place on earth?

ZZ: I have 2, the garden outside the Smithsonian Building and the Western Wall in Jerusalem.

MR: I think you told me you used to be an actor at some point, do you ever have the desire to do that again?

ZZ: Only if I'm asked and if I am very challenged.

MR: What part of making ISO did you like the most?

ZZ: Watching the footage for the first time.

MR: Any you didn't like?

ZZ: Raising money.

MR: When you're making a movie, how does it affect the rest of your life?

ZZ: Everything is affected. It consumes me. I don't think about anything else.

MR: Speaking of the rest of your life, what do you do in your free time? Any Hobbies?

ZZ: I love cooking and entertaining. Writing, I write almost everyday. My filmmaking really consumes me.

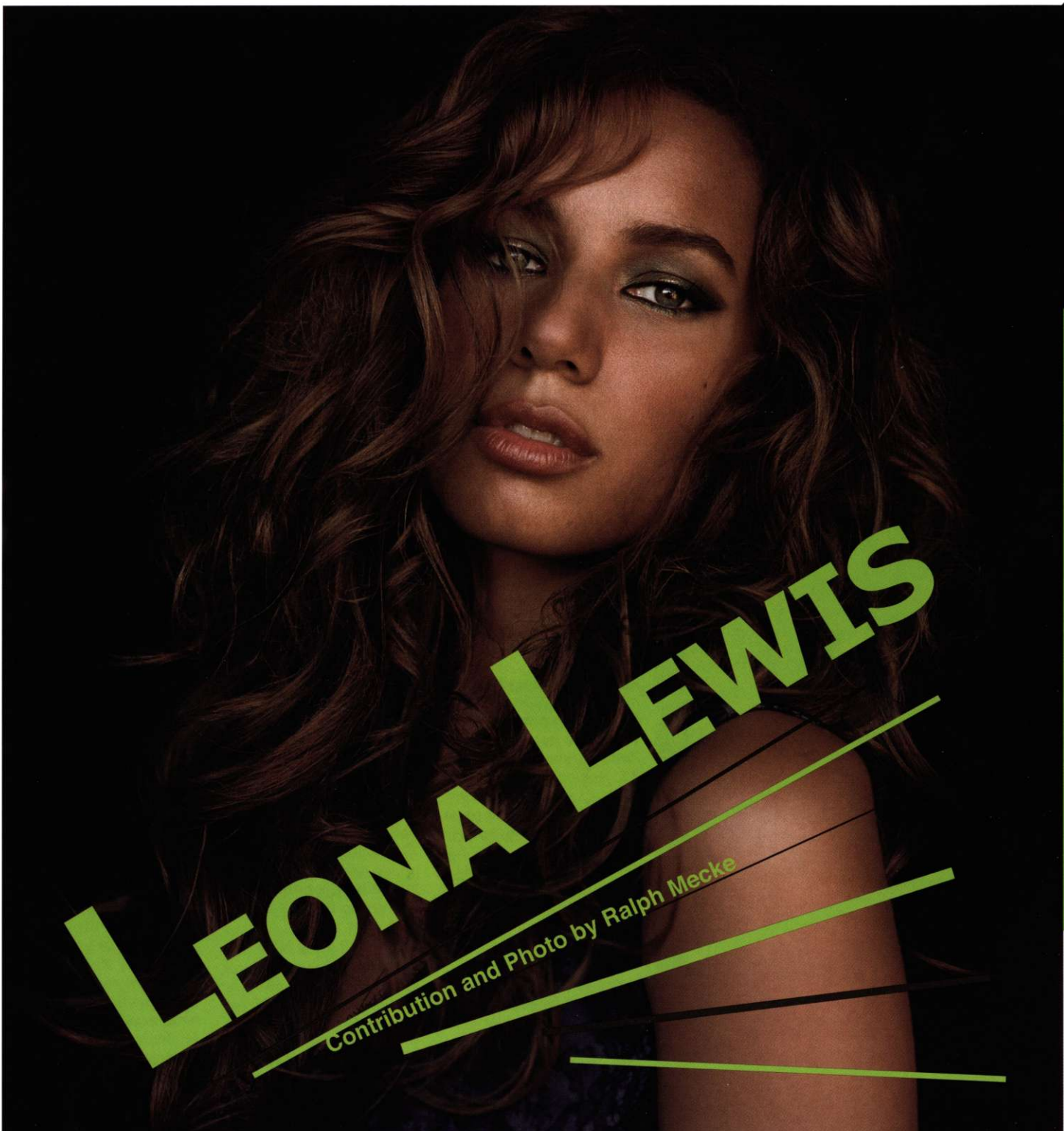
MR: If there's a sequel to In Search Of, any ideas what it will be called?

ZZ: Still Searching. I could very easily write an HBO series based on this film.

Photos are stills from the movie In Search Of.

ldreammachine.com
Insearchofmovie.com

In Theatres this Summer



LEONA LEWIS

Contribution and Photo by Ralph Mecke

She won the third series of Simon Cowell's *The X Factor*, and her album *Spirit* became Britain's all-time fastest-selling debut and an international sensation, spawning two record-shattering singles. Now, with her emotional lead U.S. single "Bleeding Love" (the U.K.'s best-selling single of 2007) making her the first British female vocalist to top the Billboard Hot 100 in more than 20 years, the 23-year-old diva is winning gay America's heart.

Congrats on your U.S. chart-topper, but especially on your recent Oprah performance—that's major!

I know! Oprah's so popular and world-famous, everyone knows her back in Britain as well, so yeah, it was a pretty big deal. I was really nervous, but at the same time she's such a lovely lady, so it was great to go on there and meet her.

Has conquering the U.S. always been a goal for you?

Well, I've always had the dream to be a singer and hopefully be a recording artist. When I actually got the chance to do it, I knew I was going to release in the U.K. But when I was introduced to Clive Davis, that's when the U.S. doors were opened to me. It's been an incredible chance for me, really.

How has America been treating you?

People are just getting to know me over here, whereas in the U.K. people will recognize me when I'm walking down the street. I'll get the odd few people here. But it's all great. I spent so much time here when I was creating the album, so it's great to come back and share my music with the people here.

Dance remixes of "Bleeding Love" have been popular state-side for months, particularly in gay clubs.

Yeah, the remixes are cool. I'm glad that they can reach people in different ways. As long as it's reaching people and people are enjoying it, that's the main thing.

Do you have a gay best friend?

In school I did—a really sweet guy called Paul, who was really into music and acting. And my hairdresser is just amazing, so lovely and relatable. It's good to have a team around you that you're friends with because you spend so much time together. You need people you can talk to as well.

How is your longtime boyfriend handling all the traveling that comes with your U.S. promotion?

Well, he comes out to see me sometimes, and I'm never away from home really for a long stretch of time. I'm always back and forth, so that helps. And there are so many ways to communicate with people now, so it's not like you never talk to someone.

The paparazzi seem crazier in the U.K. than they are here. How have you handled that attention?

It's quite funny, really. Sometimes they can be quite crazy, following cars and bikes and stuff, but as long as they're not endangering anyone else or themselves, it's fine. I know they have to do a job as well. But over here you've got video cameras, which we don't really have as much in the U.K. So that's quite strange when you get paparazzi with video cameras trying to interview you as you're walking around.

Have you had awful things printed about you?

Everything's been quite positive so far. I don't really do much negative to put in the papers.

You don't hit London clubs with the "chavs" from Big Brother?

[Laughs] No, not really. I'm more of an at-home kind of person.

Speaking of British invasions, Victoria Beckham wore the same £100,000 crystal-encrusted Dolce & Gabbana dress in the Spice Girls' "Headlines" video that you wore in the U.K. "Bleeding Love" video. Do you aspire to be a fashion icon like Posh?

Oh yeah, we did! It's great to wear those beautiful designer dresses and to be able to perform in them, and it's good that people want you to wear their clothes. I love fashion and dressing up, but I like to be comfortable as well.

Do you enjoy being fussed over by stylists?

It can be quite relaxing, actually. I've got some people who regularly do my hair and my makeup, so we've found a good balance of what to do. They know what I like and I don't like, so we get on really good.

What are your thoughts on another soulful British import, Amy Winehouse?

I love her albums and I think she's amazingly talented, and that's the main thing about her.

You're also experiencing huge success at a very young age. How can we make sure that you never have to go to rehab, Leona?

[Laughs] I'm just starting out, so I'm still growing and experiencing different things, but I've got my family around me as well, so I think that keeps me quite sane.

Women with soulful voices like yours have usually dealt with great heartache and sorrow, but you seem so well-adjusted. What struggles have helped color your sound?

Growing up, I think at one point or another everyone's had their heart broken, and I have definitely. So I draw on those experiences. Like with "Bleeding Love"—it is a love song, but it's not a love song about a perfect romance; it's actually quite heartwrenching and raw. With love sometimes comes a lot of pain. It's not all sweetness and roses.

What was the harshest comment you received from judge Simon Cowell on The X Factor?

I actually got quite good comments. I never got anything really mean said. I feel very, very lucky.

I understand you got some criticism for a lack of self-confidence.

Yeah, that's probably the worst thing, which isn't that bad. But I take awhile to come out of myself. I have a quiet self-confidence. I guess against other people on the show who were really loud and out there, I may have seemed quite quiet. As people get to know me, they'll know the real me.

What advice would you give the current American Idol contestants?

Enjoy it, and remember the moments because it goes by quick. For me, the show literally went by in such a flash, so just enjoy what you're doing and have fun.

And what advice would you give a drag queen who wanted to emulate you?

Have big hair and a sparkly microphone! And just sing from the heart and with lots of soul.

Leona Lewis' Spirit (J Records/Syco) is out now.
www.leonalewismusic.com

Polishing the Queen City's Tiara

ARTICLE BY PETER LEWNES

From East to West, North to South, there's a revitalization effort in the city of Allentown that is set to give the city a sparkling makeover. The Queen City is preparing for a coronation and we're about to take notice.

Head West young men and women to the city's West End neighborhood, where you'll find the first gem in the crown. This is Allentown's Town and Country historic neighborhood where gorgeous homes, graced with tree-lined streets, host a fabulous shopping area along 19th Street. Crowning 19th Street in all it's Art Deco glory is The Civic Theatre Of Allentown offering first-class theatre and independent film for the Lehigh Valley. The theatre lights glisten on a street of boutique stores and cafes, each inviting you in. Not to be missed is West Park, which is transformed into Buenos Aires each summer featuring Tango In The Park, and, a first this year, Movies In The Park (bring your blanket and snuggle up!).



Traveling East, the Old Allentown and Old Fairgrounds neighborhoods, more of Allentown's historic gems. Old Allentown Preservation Association, the city's leader in historic preservation, is entering it's 32nd year in existence. Old Fairgrounds is enjoying a phenomenal resurgence with many young, hip urbanites moving in and staking their claim by buying and restoring many of the beautiful old homes in this area.

The social networks that exist in both of these communities are not to be believed – (there's always a cocktail party going on somewhere!). One of the area's premiere events for viewing what this area is all about is the Old Allentown House Tour, which is scheduled for Saturday, October 4th from 10AM -4PM. The tour is an excellent way for you "Gladys Kravitz" types to enter the



before



after

inner sanctum of these historic abodes. This year the tour will include homes that cross into 7th Street and The Old Fairgrounds Neighborhood.

East meets West Village on 7th Street! with a more than subtle hint of Miami. Allentown's diamond in the rough, 7th Street has the true urban-grit of the city. A young community of predominately Latino shop owners, 120 retail spaces and yummy restaurants give 7th Street its flava. Revitalization efforts received a boost by a state "Main Street" initiative, managed by openly-gay Main



Street Manager, Pete Lewnes. A strict, 'put a window where a window ought to be' approach to revitalization is being followed for this neighborhood shopping district. Volunteers from the Seventh Street Development Committee and Community Action Development Corp. of Allentown have employed an aggressive storefront facade program, and are encouraging outdoor seating, twinkle lights for the trees and street arts. The goal of 7th Street's renewal is to put the best face forward on this highly visible gateway into the city of Allentown.

After you've toured down Allentown's "Red Carpet" on 7th Street, you'll find yourself

on Hamilton – the Crown Jewel in the Tiara. What's happening on Hamilton can be summed up in two words: vision and development. The Vision is being provided by the Center City Association of the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce through meetings designed to acquire public input on the future of Hamilton Street. Development runs the gamut from the sleek-sexy architecture of PPL Plaza to the new Butz corporate offices to the planned renovation of the Schoen Building. For all of us with an appetite for good food and nightlife, there's the uber gay-friendly Allentown Brew Works. If you have a taste for something different, there are numerous favorite old standards and new classics like Johnny Mananas.



For the cultured pearls among us, the arts are also thriving in Allentown. A diverse Arts District including museums, theatres, arts schools, galleries and a growing number of community arts projects add even more shimmer to Allentown's tiara.

The story of Allentown's revitalization efforts is as diverse as our community. There are many visions ranging from individuals rebuilding houses into homes, to larger visions of private investors like Myron Haydt, whose fabulous concept for the Cosmopolitan rooftop restaurant have us all breathless with anticipation. Allentown provides the perfect opportunity for any of us looking for the right place, the right time and a real chance to work on making our dreams come true. The Queen City has never looked more glamorous, and it's time to crown her as our own.



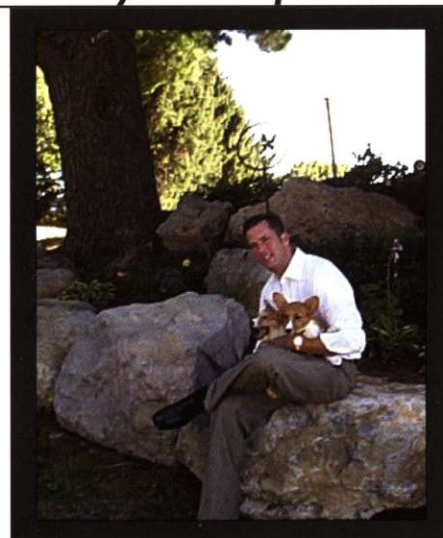
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30 ESSENTIAL GLBTQ FILMS

Compiled by Alex Doty

I am pleased to announce that, in 2008, it is a fiendishly difficult and unfair task to come up with only thirty "essential" gay, lesbian, bisexual, trans, and queer films (hereafter GLBTQ films). In order to do this, I had to set some ground rules to limit the pool of excellent contenders. So the list below only includes feature-length films with theatrical releases, otherwise I would have included short films by Jan Oxenberg, Kenneth Anger, Barbara Hammer, Sadie Benning, and Jean Genet's lyrical prison film *Un Chant d'Amour*, as well as the fantastic BBC production of *Oranges are Not the Only Fruit*, the made-for-British TV *The Naked Civil Servant*, and the HBO version of *Angels in America*. This list is also limited to films made in North American and Europe. If I was going totally global, I would have included films like *Okoko* (Japan), *Fire* (India), *Happy Together* (Hong Kong), *The Wedding Banquet* (Taiwan), *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* (Australia), and *Heavenly Creatures* (New Zealand). I also cheated a couple of times in order to acknowledge more than one film by certain directors. Now, without further ado and excuses, here are my 30 (or so) essential GLBTQ films, in chronological order.

Madchen in Uniform (1931, Germany). This lesbian classic is set in a Prussian girls' school, and pivots around an extremely crush-worthy young teacher.

Sylvia Scarlett (1935). Katharine Hepburn is disguised as a fetching young man for most of the running time, leading to homosexual and bisexual hijinks. It's no surprise that director George Cukor was gay himself. Film co-star Cary Grant adds to its queer quotient. A major flop in its day, now a cult classic.

The Killing of Sister George (1968, Great Britain). The first "modern" lesbian film. Soap star loses her job and her younger girlfriend at the same time. Legendary lead performance by Beryl Reid.

Boys in the Band (1970). The first "modern" gay film. Bitching at a birthday party in New York City. Is it of historical, ethnographic interest only or is it still relevant? You decide.

John Waters films. His early films, especially those starring the divine Divine, were avant-queer. Check out his masterpieces *Pink Flamingos* (1973) and *Female Trouble* (1975) if you dare. They are as shocking and outrageous as they ever were.

R.W. Fassbinder's queer quartet: *The Bitter Tears of Petra von Kant* (1972), *Fox and His Friends* (1975), *In a Year of Thirteen Moons* (1978), and *Querelle* (1982). German director Fassbinder's forte was constructing intense, class-conscious melodramas around troubled characters. In these films a lesbian fashionista, a working class gay, a transsexual, and a sailor into rough sex emote up a storm.

Taxi zum klo (1981, Germany). A grade school teacher juggles work, a lover who wants to settle down, and a nightlife that centers around the bar scene. Gritty and complex.

The Times of Harvey Milk (1983) and *Common Threads: Stories from the Quilt* (1989). Two fantastic Oscar-winning documentaries—the first on the assassinated openly-gay San Francisco politician and the second about the HIV/AIDS memorial quilt—that manage to touch the brain and the heart in equal measure.

Mala Noche (1985). Finally on DVD is Gus Van Sant's first feature, and, in many ways, his best film. It is the story of a world weary guy who works in a liquor store in Portland. He becomes infatuated with a teenage Mexican illegal immigrant, but ends up with the kid's friend. Full of Van Sant's melancholic lyricism.

My Beautiful Laundrette (1985, Great Britain). Discover a never-been-hotter Daniel Day-Lewis before his two Oscars. The titular laundrette is hard pressed to produce as much steam heat as Day-Lewis and his co-star Gordon Warneke manage to emit during their scenes together as a white working class guy and his Anglo-Indian boyfriend.

Law of Desire (1986, Spain). While all of Spanish director Pedro Almodovar's films reveal a queer sensibility, this one is centered on

gay and transsexual characters and is his GLBTQ masterpiece, as far as I am concerned.

Parting Glances (1986). Steve Buscemi stars in one of the pioneering fiction films about HIV/AIDS—and it is still one of the best.

Desert Hearts (1986). One of the best-loved lesbian films of all time. Proper professor awaiting a divorce in late-1950s Reno finds love with a cowgirl.

Torch Song Trilogy (1988). Harvey Fierstein recreates his Tony-winning role as a drag performer with man trouble and mother trouble.

Tongues Untied (1989). Part documentary, part poetic meditation, part performance art, and part fictional recreation, director Marlon Riggs's film explores the lives of gay black men in America. One of the works that kicked off what became known as "New Queer Cinema."

Paris is Burning (1990). Director Jennie Livingston's controversial documentary on the voguing ball scene in New York City.

Orlando (1992, Great Britain). Sally Potter's fantastic version of the Virginia Woolf's novel about a character who lives for 400 years and changes her/his sex across time. See the Tilda Swinton performance that should have won her the Oscar.

Go Fish (1993). Or, "Where the Girls Are." Rose Troche's fresh and provocative comedy about a group of lesbians living and dating in San Francisco. Best scene: a lesbian kangaroo court grills one of the main characters about not being a "real lesbian."

Silverlake Life: The View from Here (1993). Rigorous and un-sentimental cinema-verite documentary about Tom Joslin and Mark Massi, a longtime couple with AIDS who decided to film themselves as they lived with, and Joslin died of, the disease.

The Incredibly True Story of Two Girls in Love (1995). Rich, black Evie meets butch, white, working class Randy and the sparks fly. Oh, did I mention they are teenage girls living in a small town?

Stonewall (1995). Director Nigel Finch and screenwriter Rikki Beadle Blair's version of the events leading up to the night gay pride began includes musical numbers as well as pointed political scenes.

Watermelon Woman (1996). A wild and wonderful semi-autobiographical meta-film in which director Cheryl Dunye plays a filmmaker in search of a 1930s black actress who specialized in mammy roles.

Bound (1996). Hot stuff coming through! A sleek and suspenseful modern film noir that stars Gina Gershon and Jennifer Tilly as lovers who concoct a plan to steal millions from a mobster.

Ma Vie en Rose (1997, France). Lovely comedy-drama about a young boy who wants to be a girl.

Velvet Goldmine (1998). A vastly underrated film by the great Todd Haynes—whose *Poison* (1991), *Far From Heaven* (2002), and *I'm Not There* (2007) might also have made this list had there been more room—it takes us into the world of 1970s glam rock through the eyes of a young fan, and stars the dream team of Christian Bale, Jonathan Rys Meyers, Ewan McGregor, and Toni Collette.

The Edge of Seventeen (1998). Teen boys in lust and love in the 1980s. A perceptive, romantic film that also features fantastic clothes and music.

The Brandon Teena Story (1998) and *Boys Don't Cry* (1999). The excellent documentary helps to complicate the compelling fictional account of pre-op transsexual Brandon Teena, which earned Hilary Swank her well-deserved first Oscar.

Hedwig and the Angry Inch (2001). A raw and exciting musical that follows the life and times of a German rock performer (who has had a "botched" sex change operation) and her equally queer band. John Cameron Mitchell stars, directed, and wrote the songs (with Stephen Trask).

Transamerica (2005). Felicity Huffman was robbed of an Oscar (by Reese Witherspoon) for her spot-on performance as an uptight male-to-female transsexual who finds herself on a cross country trip with her estranged son.

Brokeback Mountain (2006). The gay Brief Encounter. But, if box office figures and Academy Award nominations are any indications, gay men weren't the only ones crying at this sweeping romantic melodrama about two cowboys in love. Jake Gyllenhaal, Michelle Williams, Anne Hathaway, and the late Heath Ledger give terrific performances under Ang Lee's Oscar-winning direction.

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The 2008 **VOLVO C30**

Review by Andy Cook



The 2008 Volvo C30

certainly does not look like your typical Volvo. Most people imagine sturdy, solid cars in the shape of bricks (look at any circa late-70s early 80s 240 series sedan or wagon). What you see here is a stylish car with design cues which harken back to the wonderfully Swedish Volvo P1800 coupe and P1800ES hatchback.

That car, the 1800ES, was

the last 2-door hatchback Volvo even sold here in the U.S. So, you might ask, why bring one to the American market now? Well, you may have noticed that this is a segment of the auto industry which has seen a lot of new entries (the Mini Cooper as a major example) as well as some tried-and-true ones (the Volkswagen GTI). Volvo was able to build this car off of a platform it already has, the one used for the S40 sedan and V50 wagon. When walking up to the C30,

you can't help but notice the big glass hatch which differentiates this from any other car on the road. This hatch is the key design element tying it back to the 1800ES, and also gives the rear a very sporty style. The front end resembles the current Volvo family face, with similar headlight and grille designs like its big brother sedans and wagons.

As for driving impressions, I was pleased, since I hadn't driven this model before. The Volvo C70 convertible I

tested last year seemed underpowered (extra weight due to the folding hardtop as a prime offender), but the C30 felt reasonably nimble. Handling was a bit on the soft side, however still very safe in true Volvo fashion. The seats in the tester, despite being completely manual, were very comfortable and supportive. I have no doubt they would be great on a long trip.

This car only comes equipped with one engine: a turbocharged five-cylinder engine that makes 227 horsepower and 236 pound-feet of torque which drives the front wheels. A six-speed manual is standard, while a 5-speed Geartronic automatic is optional. The tester I drove had the automatic, and I must say, the acceleration was quite decent. Also, the transmission shifted very smoothly in between gears. On the highway, a friend commented that this car had 'long legs,' a term meaning that it could cruise comfortably on a long trip. The C30's economy is estimated to be 19 city and 27 highway with the automatic.

The Volvo C30 has a suspension tuned to be firm, but make no mistake, this is still a car designed to be a comfortable 'daily driver' and in this way, the C30 hits its mark. It's still a fun car to drive, don't get me wrong. However, if you're looking for more of a racy, buckle-up and hang-on feel, you're more likely to get satisfaction from a GTI or Mini Cooper S.

The dashboard layout is very clean, and borrowed from the S40 sedan, but the hatch gets some two-tone colors and some different trim. Also, the same slim "waterfall" center stack (which reminds me of a remote control that you can reach behind) is very simply and clearly designed for operation of the climate control and audio systems. Also, this car is specifically a 4-passenger car – no attempts (smartly) were made to shoe-horn in a middle back seat rider. They do fold down, though, which is convenient for carrying large items. The cargo area can hold 12.9 cubic feet with the 50/50-split rear seatbacks up, and expands to 20.2 cubic feet when both are lowered. Just watch the glass hatch, as it slopes down sharply in order to keep that great exterior line.

The car had A/C which worked well, and also had cords in the center console to hook up an iPod (or similar MP3 player). Hooking up an iPod was very easy to do, plus it made the sound system really sound great. The steering wheel controls or dash controls let you control your music library right on the display, so you could leave your MP3 player tucked away in the console. Sirius Satellite radio is optional.

I think this C30 will go a long way towards making Volvos sporty (note the 'y' on the end) and accessible for people who want the safety of the brand and a reasonable price. Volvo makes the 2008 C30 in

two styles. The Version 1.0 (about \$23K) has many things standard (a/c, full power accessories, CD audio system, 17" wheels, etc.), and the Version 2.0 (almost \$26K) adds 18" wheels, a Dynaudio 10-speaker with Dolby surround stereo, and some other niceties. However, be careful! There are a host of stand-alone options like a power glass sunroof (\$1200), nav system (\$2200), leather (\$1200), Bi-Xenon headlights (\$700) and automatic transmission (\$1250) which could have you hitting or exceeding \$30K. Once you hit the \$30K mark, you may want to evaluate what else it has out there on the market. The tester I drove was a Version 1.0 with automatic and some options, at it windowed at under \$27K.

Now I would be remiss if I wrote about Volvos without mentioning the safety factor. There's no shortage of standard features here including antilock brakes, stability control, traction control, front-seat side airbags, full-length side curtain airbags and a whiplash protection system. In addition, a new option is Volvo's new Blind Spot Information System (\$695) which uses rear-facing digital cameras in the door mirrors to alert you if anyone is in your blind spot. This is pretty cool stuff, and you get alerted so you don't inadvertently make a lane-change into another car or motorcycle.

Great Fun and Funky Cars from our Collective Past – How many of these would you like to drive?

1. Penelope Pitstop's Compact Pussycat (Hanna Barbera's Wacky Races; The Perils of Penelope Pitstop – her spinoff series!)
 2. Speed Racer's Mach 5
 3. Mary Tyler Moore's 1972 Mustang convertible (the yellow one Rhoda put the downpayment on) (The Mary Tyler Moore Show)
 4. Emma Peel's 1967 Lotus Elan (The Avengers)
 5. George Jetson's flying car (The Jetsons)
 6. James Bond's Aston Martin DB5 (Goldfinger)
 7. Maxwell Smart's 1965 Sunbeam Tiger convertible (Get Smart)
 8. Jill's 1978 Ford Mustang Cobra (Charlie's Angels)
 9. The Bradys' 1971 Plymouth Satellite station wagon (Brady Bunch)
 10. Jim Rockford's 1977 Pontiac Firebird (The Rockford Files)
- And a special BONUS – The Partridge Family Bus (who could miss that paint job??!)

Our thanks to Michael Ruggiero, Volvo Sales Manager, and the accommodating folks at Brown Daub Volvo on Rt 191 in Nazareth, PA for providing the Volvo C30 for this test. If you'd like to learn more about this car or any other Volvo product, just give Michael a call at 610-759-1000 extension 658, or email him at ruggiero@browndaub.com. Be sure to let him know where you read about it, too!

“GAY HISTORY IN QUOTES”

Compiled by Liz Bradbury

3000 BC: “Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as his own soul.” From the Bible’s Old Testament, 1 Sam. 18:1

3000 BC: “Whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge; thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God; where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried; God do so to me, and more also, if aught but death part thee and me.”-- Ruth to Naomi from the Bible’s Old Testament, (Ruth 1:16)

612 BC: “Come, Venus, come Hither with thy golden cup, Where nectar-floated flowerets swim.

Fill, fill the goblet up;
These laughing lips shall
kiss the brim,--Come,
Venus, come!” -- Poet
Sappho of Lesbos

1532 AD: “Bereft of
handsome eyes, and
jaunty air, Still loyal
are to him I joyed in
bed, Whom I embraced,
in whom my soul now
lives.” --- Love sonnet
Michelangelo wrote to
Tommaso de’ Cavalieri

1533 AD: “Forasmuch
as there is not yet suf-
ficient and condign
punishment appointed

and limited by the due course of the Laws of this
Realm, for the detestable and abominable Vice of
Buggery committed with mankind or beast”... goes
on to define it as a felony punishable by hanging
until dead. -- “Buggary Act” passed in England to
punish homosexuality

1779: “I wish, my dear Laurens, it might be in my
power, by action rather than words to convince you
that I love you.” --- Alexander Hamilton in a love
letter to John Laurens

1855: “But the expression of a well-made man
appears not only in his face, It is in his limbs and
joints also, it is curiously in the joints of his hips
and wrists.” --- Walt Whitman, from I Sing the
Body Electric

1859: “I slept with Joshua for four years.” Abra-
ham Lincoln on his loving relationship with Joshua
Speed

1869: “People who find their sexual pleasures
with members of the same sex.” -- Karl Maria Kert-
beny, coining the word “homosexual” as part of his
arguments against the German sodomy law

1894: “The love that dare not speak its name” --
- from the poem Two Loves by Oscar Wilde’s lover
Lord Alfred Douglas

1921: “I caught sight of a splendid Misses. She
had handkerchiefs and kisses. She had eyes and
yellow shoes, she had everything to choose and
she chose me.” -- Gertrude Stein poem about Alice
B. Toklas

1933: “Hick darling,
All day I’ve thought of
you & another birthday
I will be with you...Oh!
I want to put my arms
around you. I ache to
hold you close. Your
ring is a great comfort
to me. I look at it and
think she does love me,
or I wouldn’t be wearing
it.” -- Eleanor Roosevelt
to Lorena Hickok, who
frequently slept with her
in the White House

1935: “A man who
engages as the active or
passive partner in lewd-

ness with another man is to be punished by im-
prisonment.” -- From Paragraph 175, the Act used
by Nazis to identify and condemn gays, and mark
them with pink triangle patches

1948: “The only unnatural sex act is that which
you cannot perform.” -- Attributed to Alfred Kinsey
at about the time of the release of the study, Sexu-
al Behavior in the Human Male

1950-52: “My only answer is that I am more of a
woman than a man.” -- Christine Jorgenson on her
gender reassignment surgery operation in Den-
mark

1960: “This sort of marriage is not in the best
interest of children.” “God has a plan for marriage
and this isn’t it.”

“Allowing this kind of marriage will pave the way
for all sorts of moral depravity.” -- 1960s comments
against interracial marriage by far right extremists

**“I still hear people say
that I should not be talking
about the rights of gay and
lesbian people and I should
stick to the issue of racial
justice... But I hasten to re-
mind them that Martin Lu-
ther King Jr. said, ‘Injustice
anywhere is a threat to jus-
tice everywhere’.”**
-Coretta Scott King

1969: "Gay Power!" -- What people in the Stonewall Rebellion shouted during the riots

1973: "Homosexuality is not an abnormality." -- Am. Psychiatric Assoc removal of homosexuality from metal illness list

1980s at the beginning of AIDs Epidemic: "I have learned more about love, selflessness and human understanding in this great adventure in the world of AIDS than I ever did in the cut-throat, competitive world in which I spent my life." -- Anthony Perkins, who died of AIDS in 1992

1993: "This is what it would be like if the world was gay." --Participants on the March on Washington, a million GLBTA people marched in the City

1993: "Don't Ask Don't Tell" -- Language of the US Military ban

1998: "Yep, I'm Gay"--- Ellen Degeneres when she came out in life and on TV

2001: "I really believe that the pagans, and the abortionists, and the feminists, and the gays and the lesbians who are actively trying to make that an alternative lifestyle, the ACLU, People for the American Way -- I point the finger in their face and say 'you helped this happen.'" -- Jerry Falwell's and Pat Robertson's anti-gay statements re 9-11

2003: "The petitioners are entitled to respect for their private lives." -- Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy when the court strikes down sodomy laws

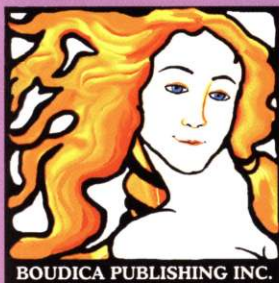
2003: "The question before us is whether, consistent with the Massachusetts Constitution, the Commonwealth may deny the protections, benefits, and obligations conferred by civil marriage to two individuals of the same sex who wish to marry. We conclude that it may not." --- Mass. Supreme Court ruling on the right to marry

2004: "I still hear people say that I should not be talking about the rights of gay and lesbian people and I should stick to the issue of racial justice... But I hasten to remind them that Martin Luther King Jr. said, 'Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere'." -- Coretta Scott King

2005: "The extension of health benefits and other benefits to life partners by the City of Philadelphia... is deemed to be a valid exercise of authority." -- PA State Supreme Court, upholding Philly domestic partner benefits

2005: "You have no idea what a difference it makes to the human spirit to know that you are treated equally under the law." -- Lone Christensen, 71-year-old Canadian Senator as Canada and Spain pass country wide same-sex marriage

2008: "There will not be a magic day when we wake up and it's now OK to express ourselves publicly. We make that day by doing things publicly until it's simply the way things are." -- Out U.S. Rep. Tammy Baldwin, D-Wis., as quoted in The Detroit News



Boudica Publishing Inc.'s imprint
Lesbian Mystery Books announces
the May, 2008 release of
Liz Bradbury's
new lesbian mystery/romance

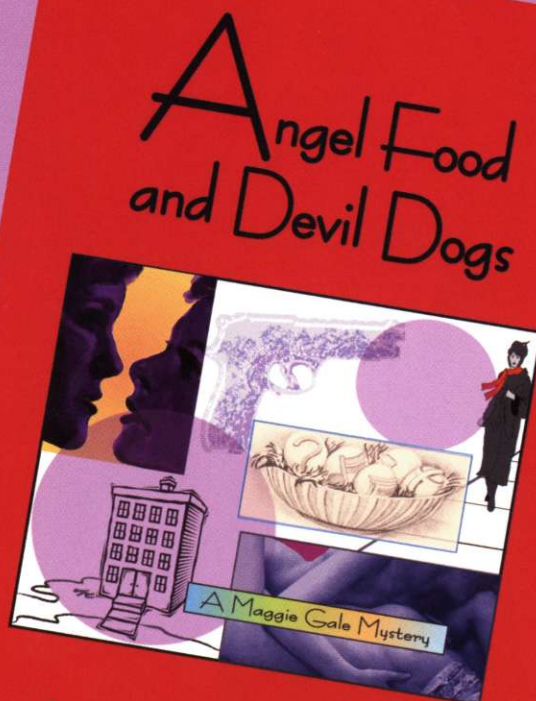
Angel Food and Devil Dogs

"FIVE STARS AND HIGH PRAISE for *Angel Food and Devil Dogs*...
If you are looking for sex, romance, and intrigue (and who isn't)
then you've come to the right place."

-- MaryEllen Elizabeth, Valley Gay Press Book Review

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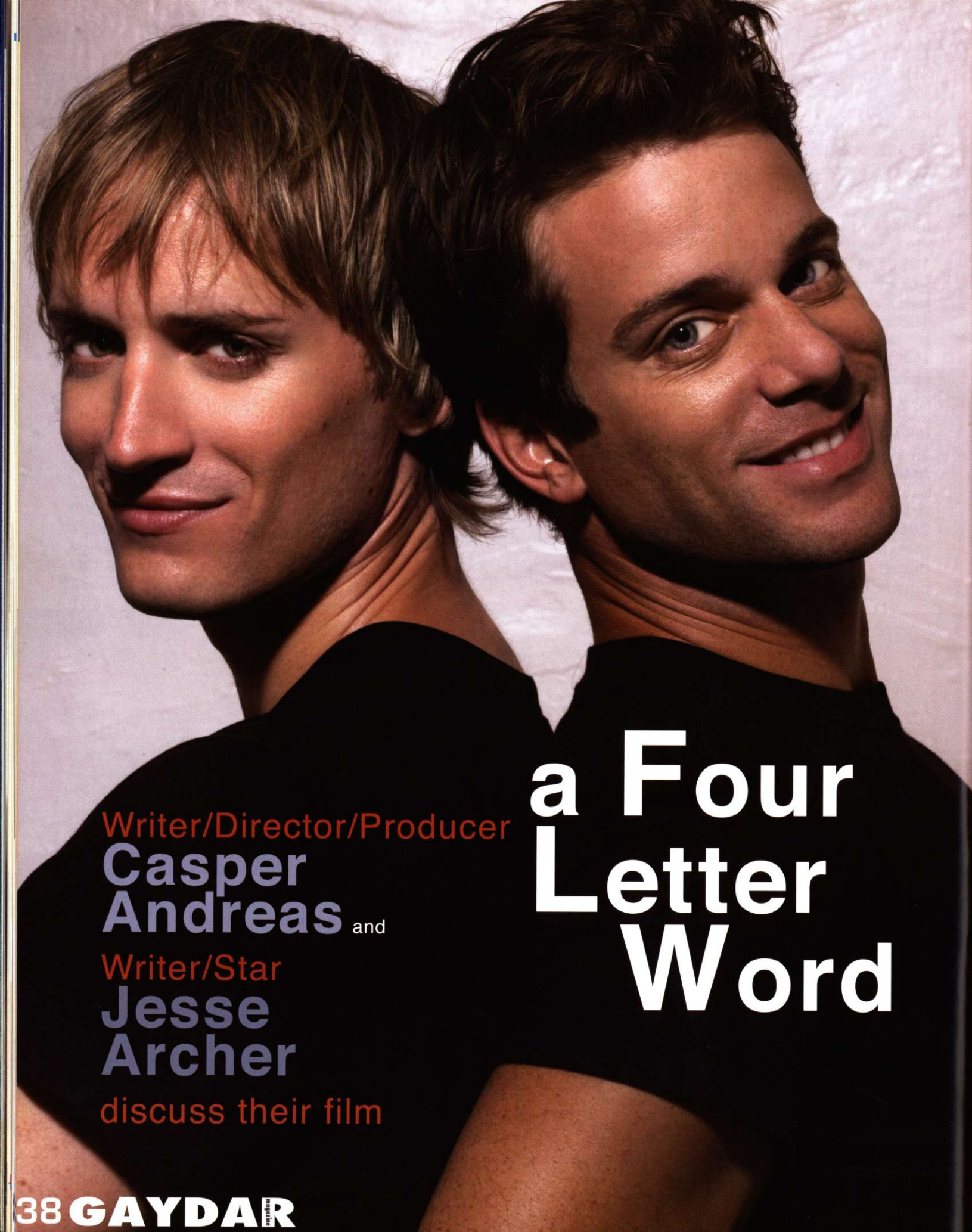
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Writer/Director/Producer

**Casper
Andreas** and

Writer/Star

**Jesse
Archer**

discuss their film

a Four Letter Word

Casper Andreas: Hi Jesse! How are you? Are you excited about *A Four Letter Word* opening in theaters this spring?

Jesse Archer: Yes very! How did you manage it all?

CA: How I managed our theatrical release? Self-distribution is kind of like making a film in the first place. You make the decision and don't stop until it's done.

JA: I think *A Four Letter Word* opening this spring will really encourage people to host their own slutty after-parties. Do you think groups like sexual compulsives anonymous will see increased membership?

CA: Maybe! It's good that we're teaching people with this film that those kind of support groups exist. Even though we make fun of them! Watching you as Luke will probably make some people want to go out and be slutty as well. And others to want to go into sexual rehab. What is your take on that? How much "slutty" is appropriate?

JA: The sexual compulsives scene is one of my favorites! I think being slutty can be fun, if that's how you relate. Lots of people think it's wrong, but then again, I know people who fall in love too easily, and too often. Maybe they should go into rehab? Sometimes therapy can be the real addiction, and I think that's part of what our film has to say.

CA: I'm glad you say that we are trying to say something with the film because I remember we worked so hard on finding that balance in the script. To make it really entertaining but at the same time not have it be all fluff. What are some of your other favorite scenes in the film?

JA: I like the banter in the sex shop between Zeke the gay activist, and Luke the party boy. It was exciting stuff because you essentially have two people who totally disagree, but I think they realize they are just two different sides of the same coin. I also like the ending because it's not Hollywood. Plus, it's really a thrill for me to be able to work on a film that is made by, for and about gays.

CA: Agreed! We have three openly gay actors in leading roles – I don't think any other film can claim that! And many, many gay actors in supporting roles. Plus a gay director, gay producers, and a lesbian editor. A very gay film indeed!

JA: Do you think there's any crossover potential for *A Four Letter Word*?

CA: I think straight women would love the film if they were to come. But we really made the film for a gay audience. We didn't try to water it down so that it would fit all. So as long as every single gay person sees the film, then I'm happy!

JA: Do you think in the future we will need to make such a distinction as there is today between a gay film and a mainstream film? I was recently in Europe and it seems that all nightlife is really becoming more and more mixed.

CA: On the one hand I agree with you. On the other hand it seems to go in the opposite direction; TV channels only for gay audiences. The Internet, with many sites targeted very

specifically to gay people. So I'm not sure. Maybe if gay people start to reject gay magazines, books, films and TV programs, and insist that they want to be represented in the mainstream media, then the advertising dollars will follow and make that happen.

JA: What do you think we may lose or gain from becoming "integrated"? What would happen to a character like Luke?

CA: I don't know if Luke can exist in a mainstream world. However my mom has seen the films three times and she loves Luke! Last time I saw her she quoted some of his lines. In a perfect world everyone should be exposed to him! I'm curious though to find out if you ever been embarrassed about portraying such an over the top stereotypical gay man?

JA: I was more concerned about the gay community's response. There are a lot of people who think this kind of portrayal is negative, that it doesn't further our quest for equality. And I think that's why we insisted on showing that Luke is

just being fully true to who he is, so that we can respond to those people and say, look--he may come across as fairly stereotypical, but he's 100% original Luke. He doesn't have to change, and he doesn't have to be straight-acting, and that's more than a lot of people, gay or straight, can say for themselves. I think that's why we also had Stephen fall in love with him... because Stephen, although he is macho and the seemingly "normal" one--it turns out he is the one keeping secrets. I know you and I have both dated liars. What's up with that? And would you date a hustler if he was up front about it?

CA: I actually did date someone once who was upfront about having been a hustler. And I was kind of ok with that. But no, I don't think I would be willing to date someone who is a hustler. Call me old-fashioned but I actually do think that there is something wrong with that. Would you date a hustler?

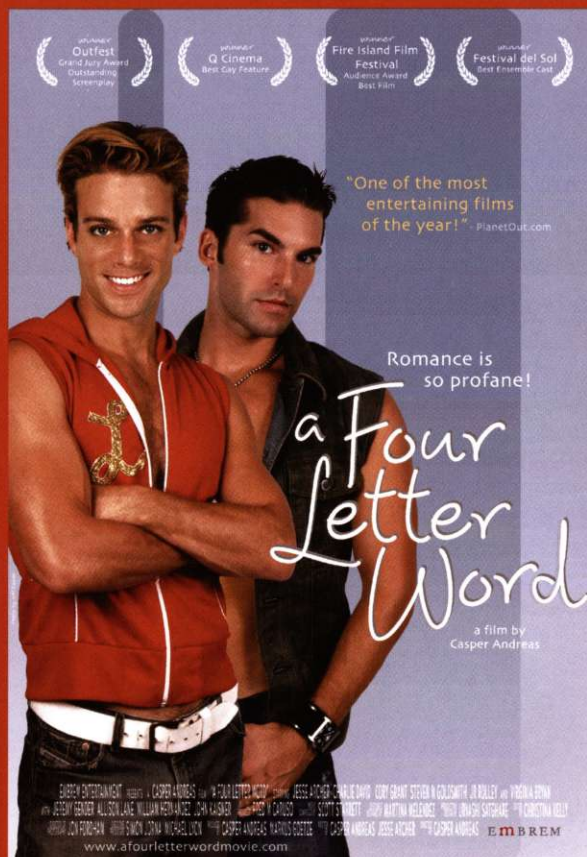
JA: If I liked him, yes. I don't think it makes for a healthy relationship to try and change the other person. I think I would find it harder

to date a man with kids, than to date a hustler. That said, I doubt it would be sustainable in the long term if he didn't plan on switching professions.

CA: So let's get back to you and playing gay for a moment. I refereed you recently to another director for a straight role that I thought you were right for, and you didn't bother getting back to him because it was a straight role. What is up with that?

JA: That role of the Spanish speaking straight person? Actually, your email was to him about me, and he never got in touch/wrote to me. I keep forgetting actors are the ones who have to plead for auditions! But yes, as for straight roles, I've always said I'll do one when I'm feeling really courageous!

Visit www.afourletterwordmovie.com for more information.



Alright, I admit it, somehow I managed to snag the dream job of hosting a world travel show, Bump! We are living in an exciting era in the advancement of equality worldwide and it's such an exciting time to tour the globe and see the commonalities between our LGBT communities and the traditions and culture which set us uniquely apart. There are limitless possibilities to explore; here are ten of my favorite and most gay friendly travel destinations.

Paris, France

It's aptly named the City of Love and you may find just that while strolling down the Champs Elysses. Parisians live a rich life of fashion, art, and culinary delights. In the summer blocks and blocks of the city are filled with sand to create la Plage – literally a beach right in the city for those who aren't able to escape to the Riviera. I suggest staying in Le Marais, the gay district. Get hooked up with your own fully furnished condo and live as the French do with the help of the gay owned Absolu Living. There are countless world famous museums and galleries including of course the Louve and Musee d'Orsay, world class opera, theatre, and some of the best shopping in the world. French cuisine is among the finest and I highly recommend taking cooking class to impress a new beau. Ready to party? Check out Le Raidd and Paris' oldest gay dance club aptly named Queen. Gay Paris indeed!

Amersterdam, Holland

Sin, Smoke, and Bicycles make Amsterdam a must on your world tour. The city has always been at the forefront of liberal thinking and you won't want to miss the world's only monument dedicated to gay concentration camp victims, The Homo Monument. Want to see a different take on a Pride Parade? Amsterdam's is held on barges floating down the numerous canals that ring the city. My favorite experience is an uber-fab restaurant called SupperClub – with fresh and daring performance art every night. Trust me, you'll be telling tales of your time at SupperClub for years to come. This city is notorious for its Red Light District and the gay night life here is just as dark and dangerous. Be sure to wear lots of protective leather and rubber! There truly is something for just about every kind of queer taste in this world class city.

Berlin, Germany

Berlin is a favorite for me because beneath the austere exterior of the locals there is a deep and dark Rabbit's Hole you may fall into. Since the fall of the Berlin Wall and the mingling of East and West the city is finding itself and truly is one of the most interesting dichotomies of new world and old. I strongly urge you to stop at Schwulesmuseum, one of the only gay museums in the world documenting our history. Berlin is vast so I definitely recommend staying at least a week to discover its treasures!

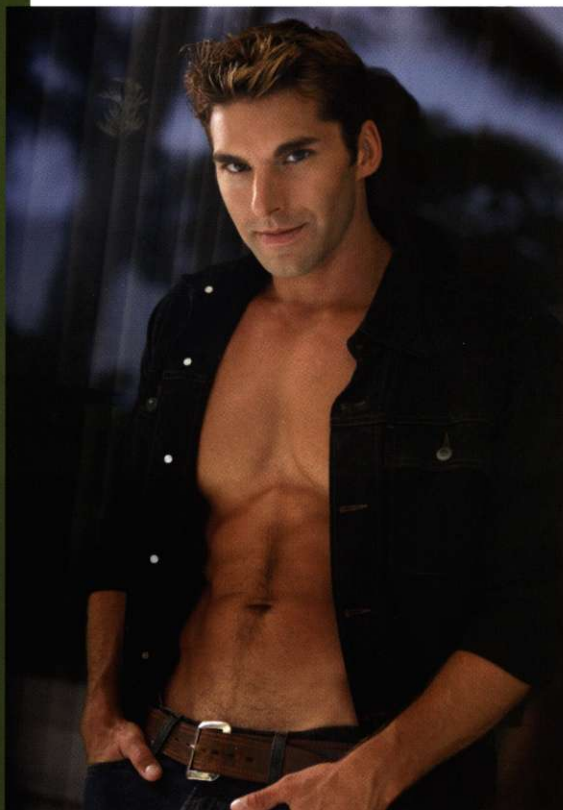
Mexico City, Mexico

My visit to the largest city in the world begins at the foot of a monument devoted to the end of discrimination. Introduce yourself to Zona Rosa, the city's gay-friendly area, this may be your safest location as Mexico City has a dangerous side you won't want to fall into. Thought the pyramids were only in Egypt? There's an Aztec pyramid in the heart of Mexico City with a disconcerting resemblance to the goliaths on the other side of the world – and they were built around the same time... coincidence? No trip to Mexico City is complete without a visit to the

house of one of Mexico's most famous painters Frida Kahlo. The nightlife here offers something for everyone – be sure to visit the hottest club in town and arguably the world.

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

While you're in Mexico hop on over to PV, one of the friendliest and gayest destinations I've been to! This truly is a gay paradise on the Mexican Riviera. When you arrive, make a beeline for the legendary "Blue Chairs" gay beach to check out the swimwear on the hot sun worshippers. Anywhere you go you will be comfortable waving your rainbow colors. Some of my favorites - Bo-anna horseback trail rides, Paco's Paradise



- an island gay resort with the only nude beach in Puerto Vallarta, fashion-forward store Bye Curious, and popular gay-owned restaurants Chilies and El Arrayun. Step out of your swimsuit for Puerto Vallarta's celebrated nightlife including Palm Bar, hot dance club Manana, and three floors of fun at Paco Paco.

Calgary, Canada

Head west for the Alberta Rockies Gay Rodeo in Calgary, Alberta. Get yourself 'rodeo ready' in tight jeans, a tall hat and cowboy shirt. For me there is nothing sexier than a man competing in a dangerous sport and you won't be disappointed in the high-octane fun the Rodeo provides. Stay with the boys out at the campgrounds or for the less nature inclined – settle into one of Calgary's many luxury hotels. Do not miss the Barn Burner Dance at the end of the Rodeo week – an overwhelming feeling of pride will take you over and get your feet 'two-stepping' along with thousands of other cowboys and girls! Giddyup, cowboy!

Vancouver, Canada

There's no better place in the world to have your Big Gay Wedding than in Vancouver, British Columbia!! Listed among the top ten most beautiful cities in the world over and over again, Vancouver lives up to its reputation settled beside the ocean and amidst snow-capped mountains. Vancouverites spend a lot of time outdoors and you'll want to join them – skiing, biking, rollerblading and hiking your way through this pristine city. Along the way, cruise Vancouver's beaches and blade the world-famous sea wall in one of the world's largest city green spaces -Stanley Park.

Helsinki, Finland

Helsinki, a city on the water, takes pride in its beaches, sauna and watering holes. You won't need a car in Helsinki!! The favorite mode of transportation here is the bicycle and you'll find many 'free bikes' to tour this quaint city with. If you're in good physical condition I highly recommend taking in the city on two wheels or by foot as it's compact enough to explore in this way over a few days. The Finnish are very friendly and you will most likely find a few new friends who will be happy to show you around. If you're a meat eater – try some Rudolf. That's right – one of the most popular dishes in Helsinki is Reindeer.

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Stand back Buenos Aires! From exploring the Evita Museum and browsing at street markets to taking tango lessons and relaxing at an exclusive men's spa, find out what makes this throbbing city of 11 million tick. Argentina is famous for its Malbec wine and for its beef – both of the four legged and two legged variety. Get your fill of both! Buenos Aires is called the Paris of South America which is probably why I love it so much. Since the country is still coming out of a recession you can treat yourself like royalty for a fraction of what you would pay in North America.

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Copa, Copacabana, Girl from Ipanema, Leblon. We've heard of these beaches, but now experience them for yourself! Rio is known for its good-natured and good-looking residents, an exuberant mix of all cultures. A few hints – leave the board shorts at home Gringo! On the beaches of Brazil – the peacocks strut and they strut in Sungas, a bathing suit with a unique cut but similar to a speedo. Shy? Get over it – Brazilians like to see what they're buying so to speak... The nightlife here is legendary – be sure to stop by The Week, one of the largest in the world complete with swimming pools, live shows, massages, restaurants and plenty of parties. But be warned – it's only open on Saturday nights and you won't find yourself seeing the light of day until Sunday afternoon! For more information on Charlie David's on-going gay world tour visit: www.charliedavid.com www.bumptv.com www.bumpdvd.com

MICHAEL LUCAS

INTERVIEW BY STEPHEN LIBBY

PHOTO BY RAY LEGO

Does he really need an introduction? Okay, how about this. Go to your wall of porn video collection and pull out *The Intern*, *Auditions*, *Budapest*, *Gigolo*, *Dangerous Liaisons* or any other Lucas Entertainment Production and there he is. The former model and actor started his own production company in 1998. He's been keeping us at attention ever since.

Gaydar Magazine: How long have you been in the business and how do you account for your success?

Michael Lucas: I have been in business since 1995 when I came to Germany and did my first film, which was actually a heterosexual movie. After, of course, all my films were gay. As for account of my success, it is obviously my dedication to my work. I am obviously a workaholic. I take my work extremely seriously. I have to tell you that I understand that 13 years is quite an unusually long career for a porn star, but I don't believe that this is the fault of the industry. I believe that short term careers are the fault of the models. Guys get excited but lose interest very fast. People get disappointed, burnt out. They go into retirement. Sometimes they appear again, and sometimes they are gone for good. You have to treat this like any other show business career. You have to work extremely hard on your physical appearance, which obviously involves lots of trips to the gym and dieting, since you work in the nude. You have to be able to evolve, as people can get tired of the same thing. You have to be interesting performer who can go from mild to wild. You have to be able to give interesting, exciting interviews and you should forget about partying, as your physical appearance is incredibly important.

GM: What are some of the myths and stereotypes that still exist regarding the adult entertainment business?

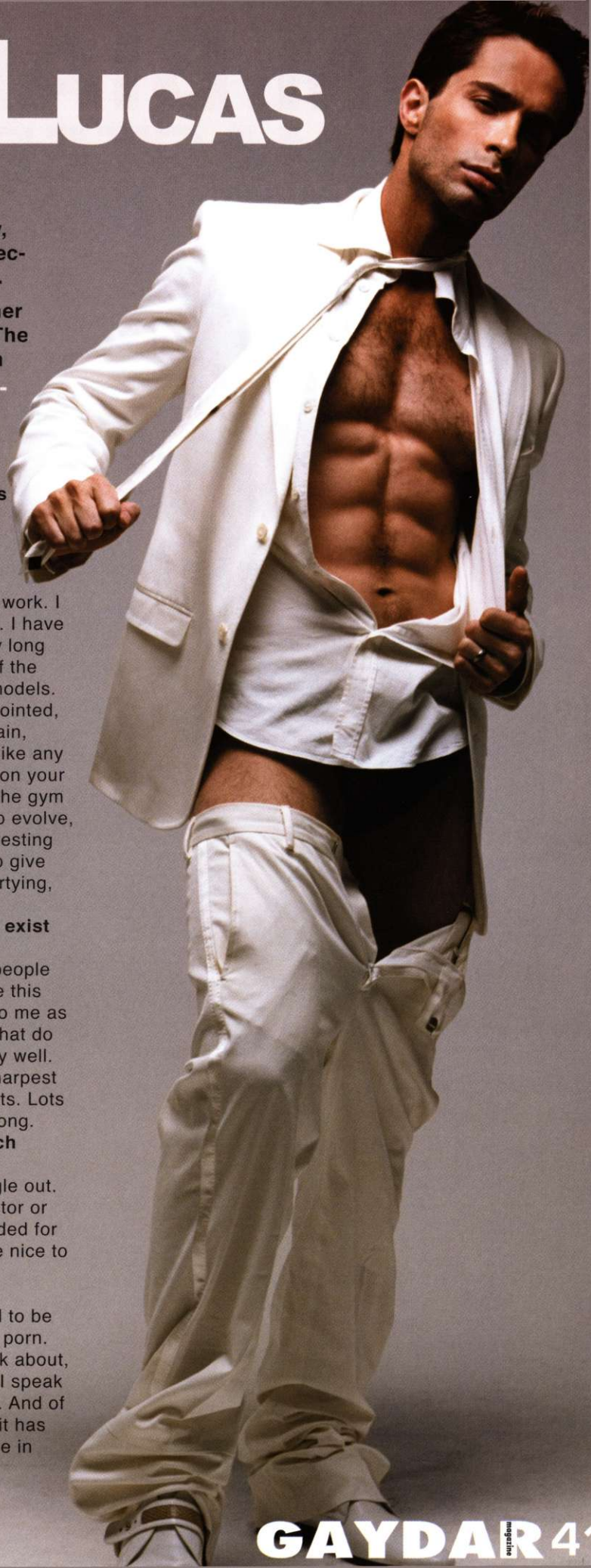
ML: The main myth would be the existence of fluffers. I have people volunteering to become fluffers all the time. I don't know where this idea or myth came from, but it doesn't make particular sense to me as there are two or more beautiful men involved in the scene -- what do you need a fluffer for? Those guys will fluff each other perfectly well. As for stereotypes, there are many. Yes, models are not the sharpest knife in the drawer. Lots of them are alcoholics and drug addicts. Lots of them go to the industry because of desperation. The list is long.

GM: Of all the awards and accolades you've received, which means the most and why?

ML: I don't think I have any award which I can particularly single out. It's always nice to be recognized, whether it's for being a director or an actor. It's also always great to see your models being awarded for the movies they did for me. I can only imagine, but it would be nice to hear it directly from the horse's mouth.

GM: What are the perks of being Michael Lucas?

ML: I enjoy very much the success I have, and I think it's good to be me, and I like to be me. You see, everything I have came from porn. Porn gave me the platform to talk about any issue I want to talk about, be it politics or the community. I write for different magazines, I speak at universities, I am invited to great parties and fashion shows. And of course, as our society is fascinated with celebrity of any kind, it has lots of benefits from upgrades in hotels and airplanes to service in restaurants.

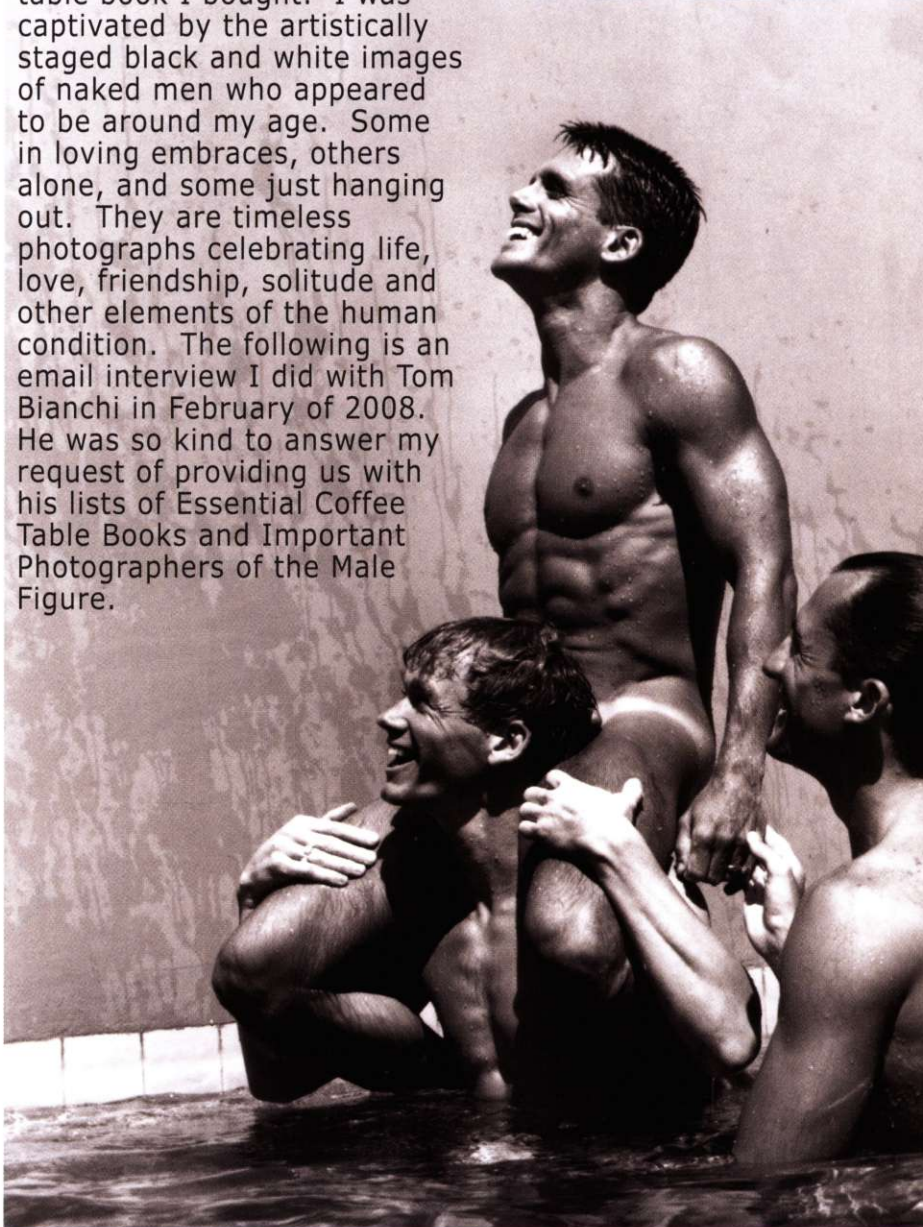


TOM BIANCHI

MASTER OF THE MALE FORM

OUT OF THE STUDIO

may have been the first coffee table book I bought. I was captivated by the artistically staged black and white images of naked men who appeared to be around my age. Some in loving embraces, others alone, and some just hanging out. They are timeless photographs celebrating life, love, friendship, solitude and other elements of the human condition. The following is an email interview I did with Tom Bianchi in February of 2008. He was so kind to answer my request of providing us with his lists of Essential Coffee Table Books and Important Photographers of the Male Figure.



Interview by Steven Libby

and big publishing company marketing departments woke up. That was how it started – now I'm eighteen books later.

SL: Who and/or what would you describe as your inspirations?

TB: Sam Wagstaff, Robert Mapplethorpe's lover/mentor was my first photo editor. He encouraged me to do what he saw as my talent – taking us behind the closed doors of my and my friends' lives. Duane Michaels – the master artist wrote, "Never try to be an artist. Just do your work. If it is true, it will become art." Duane was very good to me, offering encouragement before anyone knew who I was.

I was also inspired by what I saw as a serious problem in the gay community. A Herb Ritts photo – Fred with Tires had become a gay icon. The problem was that Fred was straight, the grease was fake, and he was a little guy standing on blocks under his coveralls. My thought – why are we worshipping the unavailable and the fake? That image was pandering to our homophobia – the concept of "trade." The image was a throwback to the time when we saw ourselves unworthy. Was the best we could hope for to blow a straight guy? I thought that image reflected a sickness that had to be addressed.

SL: Did you anticipate the response to the *On the Couch* collection?

TB: I thought it was time to get over our cultural anti sex attitudes. One psychologist / sex therapist said of this work, "I have a lot of patients uncomfortable with themselves as sexual beings. Your book is the first I've seen that I can point to and say – if you want to see what sexual health looks like – look at these men." Another writer / photo curator saw it as the best erotic art of our time, period. Another observer, a renown academic wrote that the work was the equal to the best of great artists

Stephen Libby: How did you get your start?

Tom Bianchi: In the 1970s I began taking photos at Fire Island Pines where I had a summer home. I was still a lawyer then in New York. No one was documenting the gay community at that time and my book about us was considered too queer to publish then – by big publishing company marketing departments.

So I put all the photos in a box for over 30 years. Now, I'm publishing them for the first time. In 1988, my lover died of AIDS and I figured I had nothing to loose by putting *OUT OF THE STUDIO* together. At that time, no one was documenting us gay men as frankly affectionately connected and I needed to leave a record of us as who we were. That book did over 57,000 copies -- and

and painters – Picasso, Yeats, and D.H. Lawrence – who admitted tapping into their erotic selves for their inspiration. That's pretty heady company and I'm glad to have those observations made about my efforts. I wasn't surprised at the market success of the projects, but I didn't anticipate that it would be seen as so serious a part of art history.

SL: What keeps you interested in photography after shooting so many thousands of photographs?

TB: This one is simple. Picasso once suggested that the problem every artist faces is not repeating himself. So as long as I can keep finding new visions in my work – I'm fascinated. Life is infinitely interesting to me. Discovering images of what I love has been an expanding experience.

SL: Do you ever fall in love with your models?

TB: All the time. I tell my subjects that I will look at them the way their lover would look at them to find the essence of their beauty and charge. Sometimes, that has led me into long term relationships and sometimes to wonderful affairs. I have to love every man who becomes naked and vulnerable to me. Doesn't mean we all hop into the sack, but if I'm not able to love them, I fail in my mission and that is a sacred responsibility.

SL: I just found out you are a sculptist. Where can one view your sculpture?

TB: Not nearly enough is available at my site. A few pieces are in my biography and a few more are visible in

the new archives section covering the Fire Island material. I'll have to work on this.

SL: What beyond beautiful men are you passionate about?

TB: I'm passionate about excellence in all the ways it expresses itself in life: A great meal—a wonderful film—an excellent conversation—a fast friend—gorgeous art—beautiful gardens—pristine pools—super sex—genuine love—a cute dog—fine wit—honest conscious politics—and above all—bright spirits—funny, funny, funny, smart good-natured people—romantic sunsets. I want to share all that with a really beautiful man, because life can be exquisite if we make it so. I'm passionate about exercising our power to do that.

TOM'S LIST OF IMPORTANT PHOTOGRAPHERS OF THE MALE FIGURE

The list is by no means exhaustive – but these are the guys who set the course. Some came later and became more famous by following the lead of these men. Tom's list of Photographers are broken down into three groups essentially:

The first of these groups is made of fashion/celebrity photographers who have pioneering work with the male figure:

George Platt Lynes
George Hoynigen-Huene
Horst P. Horst
Herbert List
Victor Skrebneski
Michael Childers

The second group are men who are artists with very original visions:

Steven Arnold
Duane Michals
George Dureau

The physique photographers of the 1950s and 1960s are important in defining the "look" of male beauty:

Bruce Belas (Bruce of Los Angeles)
Don Mizner (Athletic Model Guild)
Don Whitman (a Denver based photographer from the 1950s)

TOM BIANCHI'S ESSENTIAL COFFEE TABLE BOOKS

No way I could list ten essential Gay Coffee Table books without promoting myself - so I'd say, start here:

1. OUT OF THE STUDIO – TOM BIANCHI (The first big openly gay book that changed publishing history by breaking all records and getting us in the windows of the big chains)
2. IN DEFENSE OF BEAUTY – TOM BIANCHI (A little book with an essential philosophic understanding of who we gay folks are)
3. DEEPSEX / BONDAGE – TOM BIANCHI (Check out my new Downloadable Ebooks, available at my site -- and well get one of these very sexy books in print and make some more history)
4. STRONG MAN – ROBERT MAINARDI / EDITOR (Early photos of the male physique – the prototypes of who we became)
5. NAKED MEN TOO - DAVID LEDDICK / EDITOR (An anthology of the male figure in beautiful contemporary art)
6. ADAM – EDWARD LUCIE SMITH / EDITOR (An anthology of the best male figurative art in history)
7. TOM OF FINLAND – F. VALENTINE HOOVEN III / EDITOR (Tom is THE original erotic master who created a world we gay men embraced)
8. HOMES POUR HOMES (In French) – MEN FOR MEN – (In English) -- PIERRE BORHAN / EDITOR (comprehensive history of homoerotic art)
9. SELF-EXPOSURE – THE MALE NUDE SELF-PORTRAITS — REED MASSENGILL (An in depth look at how mostly gay artists look at themselves and include themselves in their work)
10. ON THE COUCH – THE COLLECTION - TOM BIANCHI (Volumes 1 and 2 are combined in a new volume of erotic work that I enjoy royalties from:-)

More information about Tom Bianchi can be found at TomBianchi.com

PHOTOGRAPHER

Ryan Boyd

INTERVIEW BY STEPHEN LIBBY

I had a change of heart regarding the cover of this issue and at the last minute emailed Ryan to feature his work and do this interview. Being the sport that he is, he got right back to me. Let's pick the brain of the man who shot our cover model.

Gaydar Magazine: How did you decide to be a photographer?

Ryan Boyd: I never 'decided' to become a photographer, as it has always been part of my DNA, so to speak. As I was always intrigued with the art form, I started taking photographs at the age of 10, very primitive times. My passion/obsession/love has merely grown in intensity over the years. I think, like most artists, it is really just part of who you are and manages to surface in different ways and times.

GM: What do you look for in a model?

RB: I think this is a loaded question... There is so much beauty in the world and in so many people around us, that models just seem to come to me. I can be in the most inane places and a potential model will come into frame. It can be a myriad of things that might trigger the process. I am therefore always looking, but not for anything specific. It truly is what the universe sends my way, which has worked quite well so far. It is a combination of not only a beautiful body and face, but the right energy and attitude.

GM: Aside from the obvious perks (photographing nude men) what do you get out of it?

RB: The ability to express myself creatively with one of the most brilliant pieces of art on the planet, the human body. I have never been able to wrap my head around why so many religions find this great creation such a taboo or make it so forbidden. When I can capture a beautiful male body in light and shadow, it gives me an artistic high. People either get it or they think I'm nuts...either is OK with me.



GM: How does it feel to know your work is being seen by potentially millions of people?

RB: A bit mind boggling. As with most of life, it finds its own path, which is in itself amazing. I am both flattered and taken back a bit when I get such supportive and positive response from one of my models or anyone else, regarding my work. I am grateful, to say the least.

GM: Who or what inspires you?

RB: Hmmm, another trick question. It would be a shorter journey to ask me what or who does NOT inspire me. I am always plugged into my surroundings, sometimes too much so. It is truly everywhere. Each of the models that I have worked with, are an inspiration unto themselves. Each and everyone is like creating a clay sculpture or a painting, the art is you and you are the art. There are numerous photographers that have inspired me, one being Francois Rousseau. He photographed the amazing book, 'DEAUX DU STADE,' which broke through all kinds of barriers regarding fine art male photography. The pioneers like Herb Ritts, and Robert Mapplethorpe, laid amazing foundations. One of my personal favorites is Henning Von Berg, he pushes the envelope past the sound barrier, a really brilliant artist.

GM: Name the ten most beautiful male models in the history of the world.

RB: This is like asking an actor what their favorite film was, which you never get a direct answer to. I think that I can truly say, that I have worked with ten of the most beautiful male models to date. To dig into my brain for the information needed to isolate and identify 10 models throughout history, might just overload my brain and cause my 'hard drive' to burn out.

ryanboydphotography.com

Photographer Henning von Berg

INTERVIEW BY STEPHEN LIBBY

If you don't own one of his books, I feel sorry for your coffee table. Erotic, sexual, loving, naked, sensual, nude. The male form in all its splendid glory. This is one of the few photos from Alpha Males I could print here. It's that hot. You may need a coaster.

Gaydar Magazine: How long does it take to put together a collection like Alpha Males?

Henning von Berg: Every year, HvB Photograph is receiving lots of invitations for printing projects. Therefore my work got included in more than 420 international publications (51 books, 16 calendars, hundreds of magazines, countless greeting cards, posters). Normally my submission for an anthology book is done within one week. The book "ALPHA MALES" is different because publisher Gmuender decided to produce a big 10-year retrospective (1997-2007). I had to go through my archives in Hollywood and Berlin (120,000 negatives and sides, plus 85,000 digital files) to find the 400 most eye-catching images. It was a difficult process for the editor-in-chief and I, we had to gear down that selection to just 100 pictures. The final book is presenting 103 photographs on 160 large-format pages. All together, it took us about 10 months.

GM: How do you decide on the locales, models, and the final shots to be used?

HvB: The retrospective book features various styles and very, very different themes. The basic idea was to show the artistic development from a corporate engineer/part time hobby photographer into a self-taught free-lance professional photographer. I had tried out a lot of photographic ideas. Therefore this monograph is a mixture from color/black-white pics and all kinds of styles.

The retrospective (1997-2007) features men from all continents

at exotic locations. Guys of all skin colors and ethnic backgrounds. Various body types between 23 and 61 years. Cute boys and mature men. One will see some bizarre settings and whimsical ideas, too. The book shows many tough macho alphas plus a humorous view on masculinity.

GM: What do you do when you're not creating art?

HvB: I am traveling the world since I am a teenager. On my extensive journeys around the globe, I am always busy photographing women/men, young/old. As I am passionate about my job, I am always working. Weekends and nights, there is always something to do.

Besides my photography, I enjoy classical music, museums, history, architecture, design, wine, private dinners with friends.

GM: What is your personal philosophy of life?

HvB: I am not religious at all. I only believe in a kind of carma: "Do on to others as you want to have done to you." In general, try to do good things and be nice to the people, so you also will (hopefully) be treated good and respectful.

GM: What are you working on next?

HvB: At the moment I am working on 3 new coffee table book projects: A book with character portraits of old and very old people (common folks and celebrities; my oldest model so far is a 108 y/o lady). A book with naked athletes and disabled people. A book with nude men and women at unique locations.

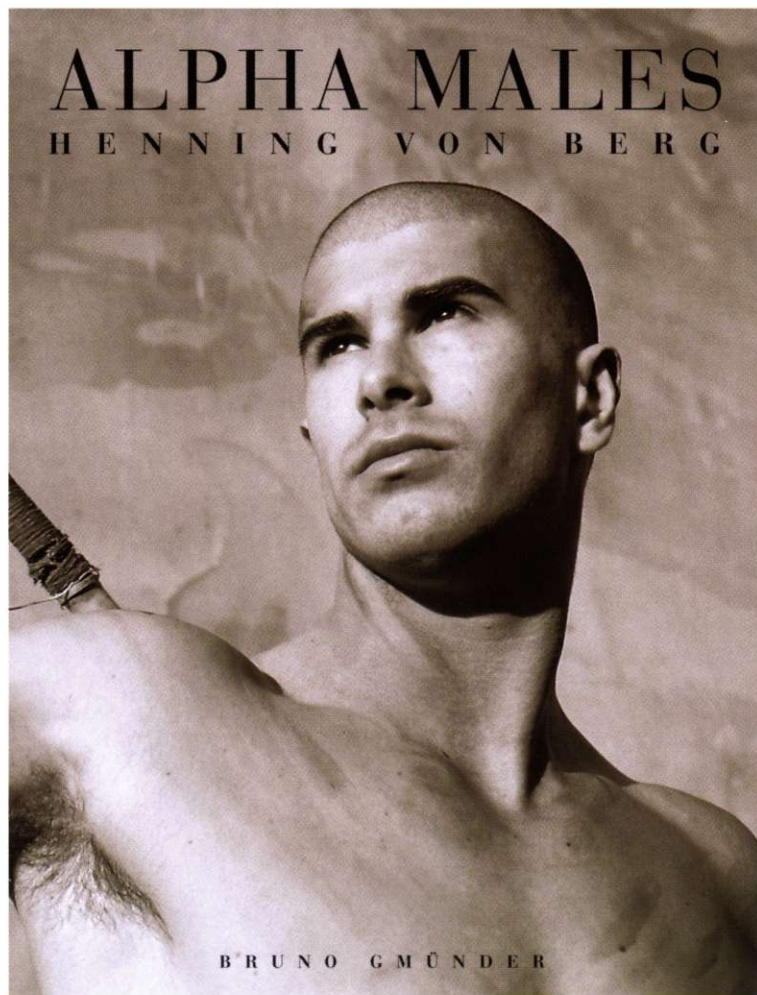
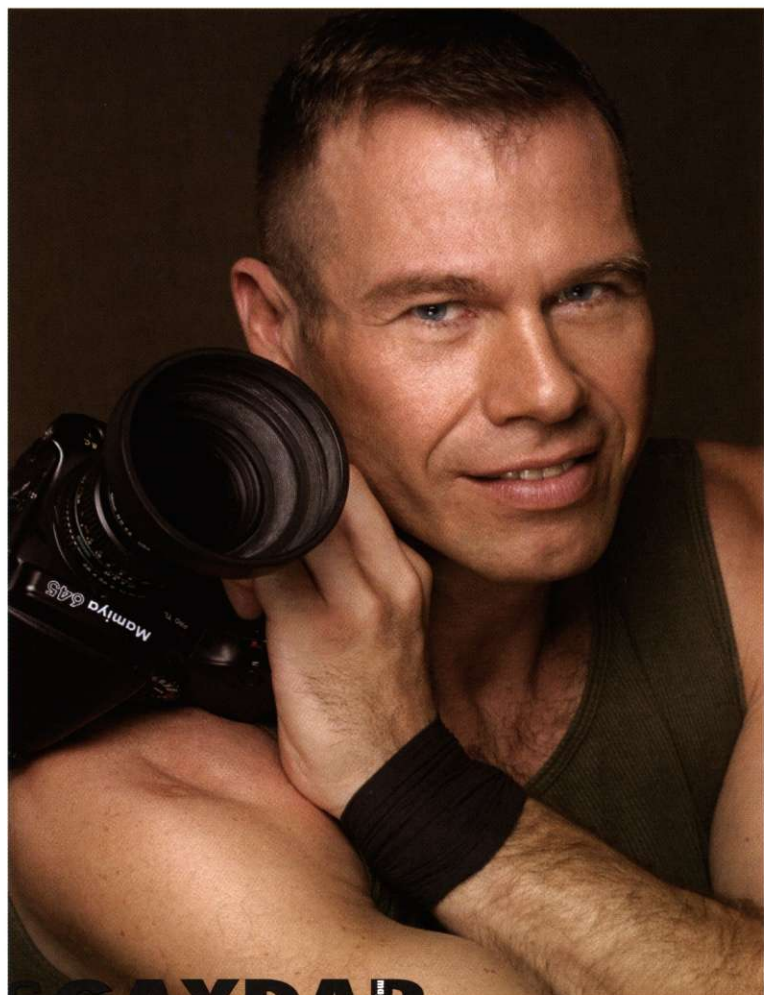
I am also interested in doing more controversial photo shoots.

I started his career in art with a provocation, the world's first and only-ever male nude photo shoot in a parliament building. Quickly, I became famous/infamous for my whimsical snapshots of 'nudes in public'.

GM: In your opinion, who are the most important photographers of the male form?

HvB: I love very much the work of Dianora Niccolini, Norman Hatton, Robert Maplethorpe, Andreas Bitesnich, Athur Tress.

www.BookAlphaMales.com





Boys of Randy

Blue

QUESTIONS BY STEPHEN LIBBY



While the Boys are prepping for their summer tour I thought I'd spring a pop quiz. They each answered the same questions. You can grade them on originality and grace under fire. I'm grading them on their freakin' hot abs. Ouch! I burned myself.

1. If you could swap lives with anyone for a day, who would it be and why?
2. The Superhero you would most like to wake up to and why?
3. What song do you like playing when you're getting nasty and why?
4. Define "getting nasty"?
5. Your favorite thing to do on a hot summer day?
6. Strangest place you ever had sex? Would you do it again?
7. Something no one else knows about you.
8. Celebrity crush: Male :Female
9. What do you want to be when you grow up and why?



Chris Rockway

1. George Bush, 'cause if ignorance is bliss, that dude lives in nirvana!
2. "Amazing Breakfast in Bed Man" For obvious reasons.
3. Hmm... Depends what's going on. Sometimes, I may put something heavy and fast on, go to the gym, and workout the stress. Unless, you meant "nasty", and for that it could be anything to warm things up.
4. Oh, you do mean "nasty". Maybe some Marvin Gaye.
5. Just be outside, relaxing with a cold drink.
6. Uhmm... someone's grandmother's bathroom, while the little old lady was downstairs baking. (laughs) Of course I would.
7. Why would I tell you that?
8. Will Farrell- I just laugh when I look at him. Jessica Alba- Obviously, just a gorgeous face.
9. A well adjusted, happy, content human being, because that is all that really matters.

Brent Diggs

1. Dr. House from the series "House". Because he is the MAN! He knows so much stuff and he does whatever he wants.
2. Definitely Superman because then we can go fly around the town and maybe get "nasty" 3000 feet above the ground.
3. Grind on Me by Pretty Ricky....because that song is just nasty itself....the beat and lyrics just want to make you hump something.
4. Ya know....getting your "freak on" ! Getting nasty is when you and your partner are both in the mood for some hot sex and you just go crazyyy on each other.
5. Go to the BEACH, of course, and rub oil all over my body. Haha!
6. On the way back from Tiger Heat I had sex in the back of the car while two people were watching sitting up front and driving. Hell yes I would do it again!
7. I have a "thing" for Reese Rideout..... ha-ha, no joke well.....ha ha ummm ... I used to have a mullet when I was younger...
8. Paul Walker...Avril Lavigne
9. A happy, wealthy and healthy older version of myself.... Maybe a personal trainer, because happiness and healthiness are key. And I want to be wealthy because, well, I have never really been wealthy in my life and a personal trainer because I love working out and helping people.

BENJAMIN BRADLEY

INTERVIEW BY STEPHEN LIBBY
PHOTO BY HEATHER LYNN

Gaydar Magazine: How old were you when you realized you wanted to be a model?

Benjamin Bradley: I never actually thought to myself "I want to be a model". When I was younger I never considered myself attractive enough or sexy enough to do it. As I got older and started feeling more confident about who I was, and started taking care of my body it kind of fell into my lap and now I'm just running with it!

GM: How old were you when you realized you wanted to be an underwear model?

BB: I was 1 and a half years old. And I remember thinking, if only I could be running around sporting real undies rather than plastic diapers, life would be great! And that's when I knew.

GM: What are the perks of being a Ginch Gonch model?

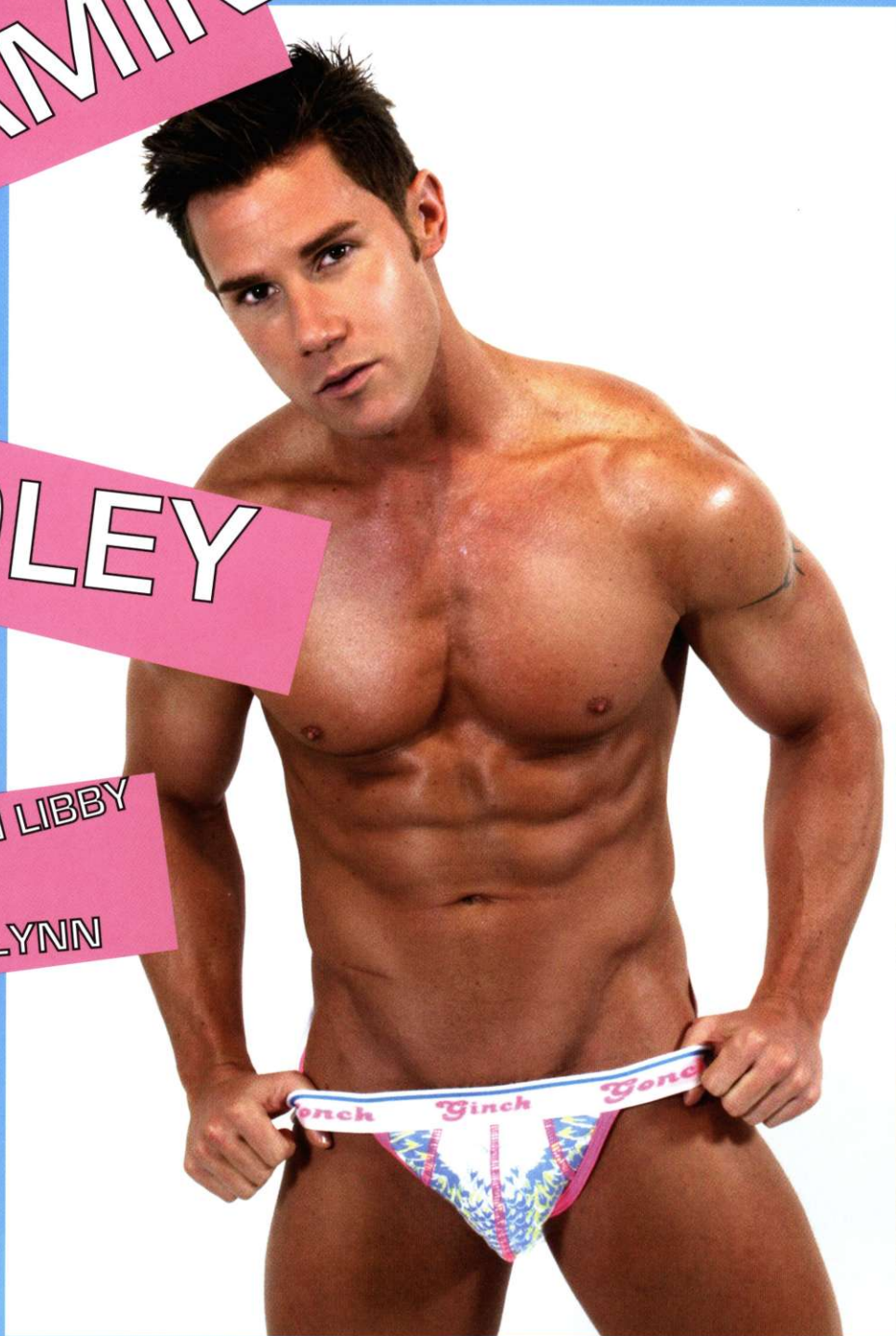
BB: Traveling would have to be number one. I get to travel to places I would other never get to see. Another perk is the fact that I get to prance around in my favorite pairs of Ginch Gonch undies. And third, the company itself is so fun. The Ginch Gonch motto is live like a kid, which is perfect for me because most of the time I'm acting like a big one.

GM: Tell us about the new collection.

BB: Jungle Fever. So "F"-ing sexy. We got tigers, eagles, and monkeys! My personal favorites are the tickling tigers. Who doesn't love a big tiger especially one that tickles you?

GM: What's going on with you and Ethan Reynolds?

BB: We split up. We are very different people with very different goals



and interests in life. We started out good, but good went to bad quickly and we tried to fix what we could, but you get to a point in a relationship where you know its just not going to work. I know that we both were happy to go our own ways. I continued on the path I am now, and he and our former manager took another path. That's life, and I'm completely content with how things have ended up.

GM: Where do you go from here?

BB: Good question! I'm in the process of figuring that out. I have so much bottled creativity that is ready to explode. I have been thinking about dipping my toes into acting. There are so many windows of opportunity opening up to me right now, and it's all very time sensitive, so I'm scrambling to sort through and pick the things I really want to do. But, whatever I do I want it to inspire.

GM: I'm already inspired. I think it has something to do with the tickling tigers. Love ya, Ben!

Fred Goudon

INTERVIEW BY STEPHEN LIBBY



His images are immediately recognizable. Chances are you've had or have some of his photography on your wall. Right now. As we speak. I have no doubt. Enjoy these images. Buy the calendars.

Gaydar Magazine: Give us some background of Fred Goudon.

Fred Goudon: I was born in 1965, Cannes (south of France)
Journalism and communication studies

1982/84 radio deejay in France
1985 press photographer
1986 press correspondent (Los Angeles)

At the same time I started shooting male models for modeling agencies. Since then I've specialized in male beauty and body shots
2000: book BED TIME STORIES Bruno Gmunder
2005: book AQUA Bruno Gmunder
2006: calendar: LES DIEUX DV STADE
2006 stade.fr
2007: book SUNDAY MORNING Bruno Gmunder
2008 (release spring or summer): new

book (no title yet) Bruno Gmunder

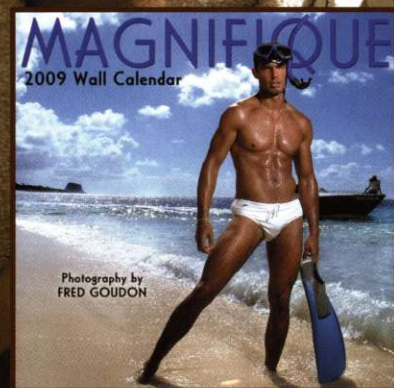
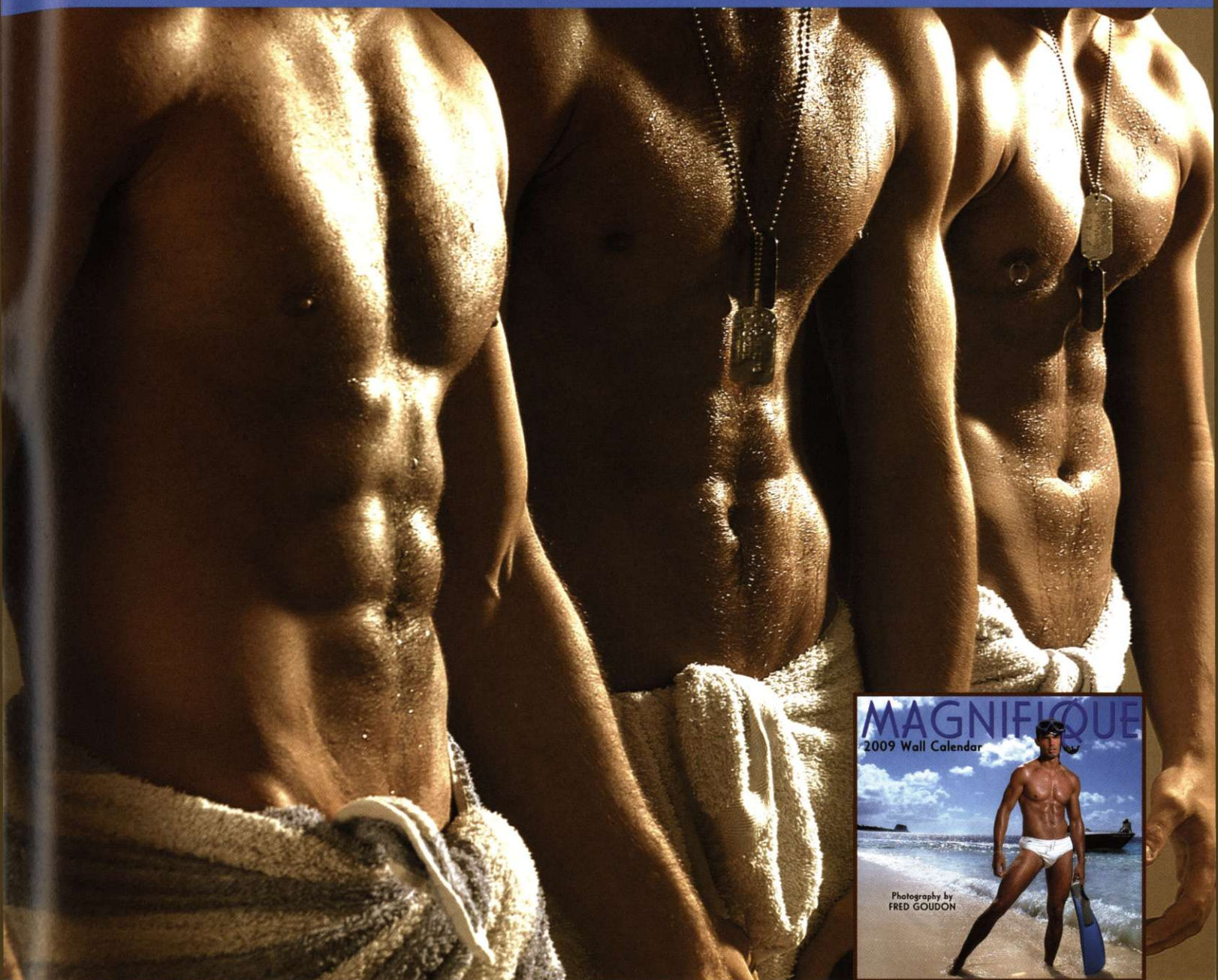
GM: Where do you find all these hot guys? Was there a sale at the Hot Guy Store?

FG: Funny question! The best thing is that most of the guys I shoot are at the beginning of their careers contacting me to be part of my projects.

I get around 10 submissions per day. I meet people in the street too, and I work with most of the major modeling agencies.

GM: How much input do the models have in the finished product?

FG: From the first meeting till the publication.



GM: Will some of these photos and others find their way into a coffee table book?

FG: I did three books with Bruno Gmunder, which are coffee table books ... the answer is yes.

GM: Do you film the photo sessions? How can I get my hands on that?

FG: The making of the *Dieux du Stade* is available.

Usually I don't film my photo sessions.

GM: What's next for Fred Goudon?

FG: My new book... I don't have the title yet, Pictures are done. Ooh-la-la... I am very exited! It should come out before the end of the year.

PROVOCATEUR is proud to publish the amazing work of esteemed photographer Fred Goudon in its upcoming 2009 wall calendar *Bedtime Stories*. A glamorous selection of Goudon's photography, *Bedtime Stories* is a voyeuristic look inside the morning routine of a male model.

10% will also release a 2009 wall calendar featuring the photography of Goudon entitled *Magnifique*. *Magnifique* is a collection of sand, surf

and skin featuring sexy international models at exclusive tropical resorts.

The suggested retail price of *Bedtime Stories* is \$15.95 each and the retail price for *Magnifique* is \$14.95 each. The entire **PROVOCATEUR** and 10% calendar lines are available for prebooking online at 10percent.com and Amazon.com. **PROVOCATEUR** and 10% titles will also be available at local community retailers upon release in late May 2008.

HARD BOYS

ROBERT MAINARDI

INTERVIEW BY STEPHEN LIBBY

Harry Bush. Go ahead, giggle. Got that out of your system? I know you too well. Let's give props to the man who created these glorious images. When Harry put pencil to paper he answered the prayers of many fans of gay erotic artwork. Editor Robert Mainardi took time to discuss his friend and the amazing book that resulted from their decade long association, *Hard Boys*.

Gaydar Magazine: Please give us a history of Harry Bush and your onnection/relationship with Harry.

Robert Mainardi: In the early 1980s our friend the artist Neel Bate (who used the name "Blade" and among whose works is the famous series "The Barn") gave us Harry's address and said we should contact him since my partner and I were fans. My partner, Trent Dunphy, was first to visit Harry at his condo in San Juan Capistrano. Harry sold him a few original drawings. Subsequently we began to correspond with Harry and eventually I went down to visit him and purchased more drawings. Harry was quite possessive of his work and suspicious of people's motives, but we did convince him we were simply collectors who admired his talent and wished to be friends.

GM: I love the book! How did *Hard Boys* happen? Is this the first book to compile Harry's work?

RM: "Hard Boys" is the first book of Harry's work to be published. Several years ago we were introduced to the publisher Andrew McBeth whose company, Green Candy Press, had published the work of a good friend, the writer and editor Kevin Bentley. We had a book in mind of the work of the photographer David Hurles (Old Reliable) which Green Candy subsequently published under the title "Speeding." While he was visiting us to discuss that project Andrew saw our collection of Harry's work and was immediately enthusiastic to do a book. It took a few years to accomplish but finally we have "Hard Boys."

GM: How did Harry find his models?

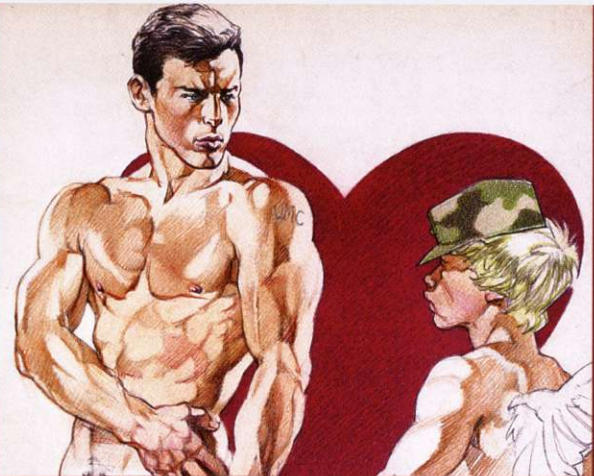
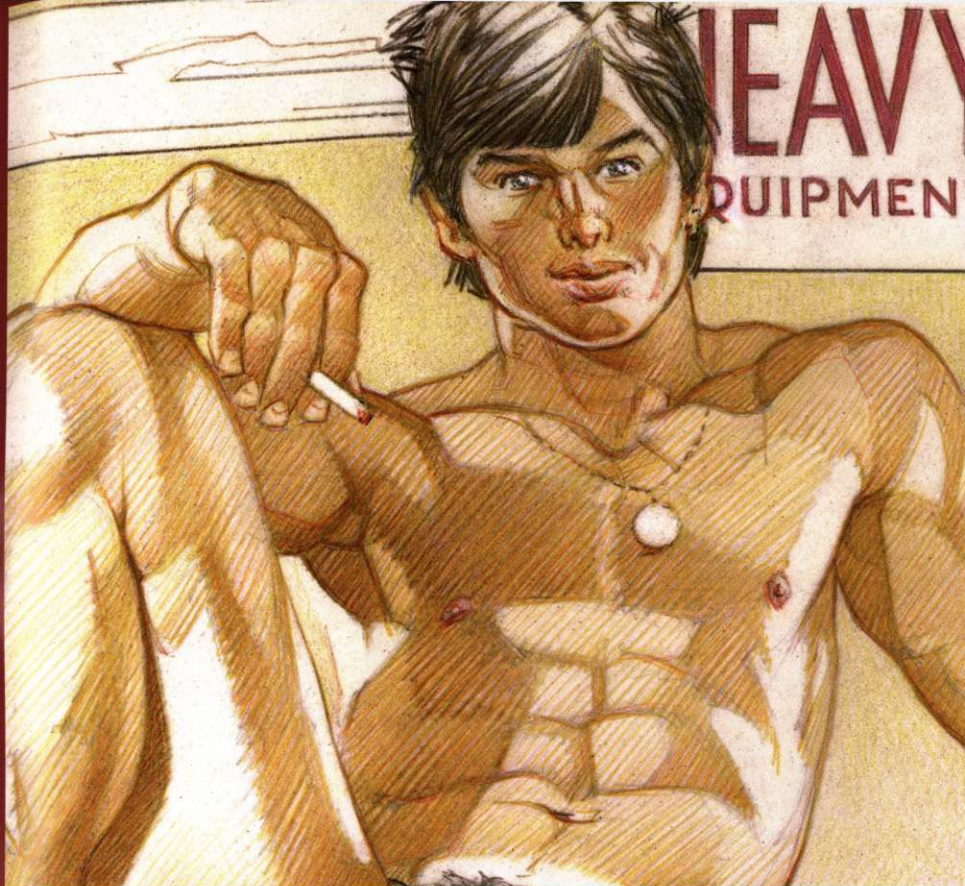
RM: As far as I know Harry worked from photographs and not from live models. He loved magazines on surfing, skateboarding and teen movie idols, but he also clipped pictures from newspapers, books and even Sears catalogs. Harry was extremely intelligent and well read and his interests were wide ranging. To me, one of the most amazing aspects of his talent is that he was self-taught and worked from printed images and yet his figures show none of the stiffness or lack of spontaneity often resulting from this method of drawing. Harry's "boys" are believable, beguiling and bursting with youthful energy and exuberance (not to mention copious amounts of spunk).

GM: This was years before *Will & Grace*, *Ellen* and *Queer as Folk*. Gay was still very much a dirty word. What kind of challenges did Harry face being a gay artist who drew young men in sexual situations?

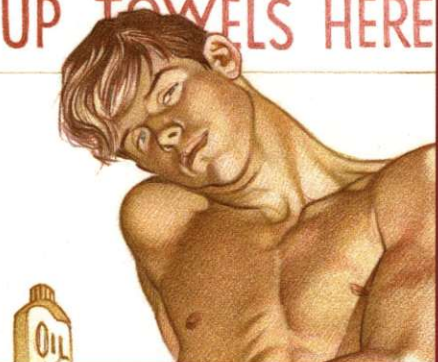
RM: Harry's challenges came in all the usual forms faced by gay men who grew up before the "sexual revolution" of the 1960s. To add to his pressures, he worked for the military during the witch-hunting days of the McCarthy era, so he was always fearful that his homosexuality would be discovered and he would somehow lose his military benefits, as well as suffer the humiliation of being "outed" to his family and colleagues. But, more than anything else, Harry was his own severest critic, both personally and artistically. He wished to be accepted as a sophisticated man and a serious artist but he often expressed his (internalized) fear that to most people he was nothing more than a fag and a pornographer.

GM: And everyone asks me this. Was Harry Bush his real name?

RM: Yes, that's his real name. How ironic that someone who feared being discovered would use his real



PICK UP TOWELS HERE



name on his unapologetically homoerotic art. That is pure Harry. Torn between his fear and his pride, his self-deprecating wit and his keen observations of human nature, his sad homophobia and his sheer delight in male sexuality. Harry was a mass of contradictions, complaints and human frailties... but all of it more than compensated for by his artistic brilliance.

GM: Tell us all about Robert Mainardi. What makes you tick and what do you aspire to do from here?

RM: For 35 years my partner and I have had a small shop in San Francisco called The Magazine where we sell old magazines and ephemera of all kinds, from Life and Sports Illustrated to Harper's Bazaar and Heavy Metal, and from Playboy and Hustler to Playgirl and Demi-Gods. It's a business we enjoy and which keeps us busy. I think we would categorize ourselves as "shopkeepers" and "collectors." We both collect many things but our ruling passion is for gay art and physique photography. For the past decade or so we've made an effort to contribute our accumulated research in this field as well as images from our collection to as many publishing projects as possible, including the Janssen Publisher's series on American Physique Photographers, John Massey's very impressively researched volume "American Adonis" about our favorite male model, Tony Sansone, and quite a number of other books including my own "Strongman" which showcases images from our personal collection. Hopefully, there are more book projects on the horizon. I am currently collaborating with the photographer Jim French on a pictorial history of his Colt Studio, and my partner is working with Green Candy on a second book of Old Reliable photos, this one in color.

GM: Would you mind sharing your 10 or 15 favorite

gay artists?

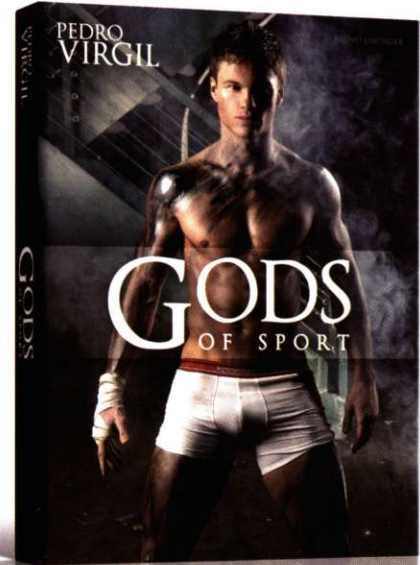
RM: At the top of my favorites list I always have to put the inimitable American illustrator Joseph C. Leyendecker, whose work from the turn of the century up to the 1950s included many covers for the Saturday Evening Post (for whom his friend and fan Norman Rockwell also worked) as well as the development of the famous Arrow Collar Man, a fictitious advertising icon (often based on Leyendecker's model/partner Charles Beach) who, in his day, received more fan mail than most Hollywood movie stars. In terms of gay artists who have done overtly erotic art I'd have to say (besides Harry Bush) that among my favorites would be Tom of Finland (of course); The Hun (Bill Schmelting), whose filthy exaggerated cartoons I dearly love; Rex, whose pointillist style creates a shadowy world of masculine sex-fever; Steve Masters, who brought an illustrator's eye to gay art in the 1950s, and Jim French who brought the same sensibility to his work as Luger and Colt in the 1960s and 70s; A.Jay (Al Shapiro) who was a good friend; Gilbert Martinez III, whose heroic drawings are little seen today. Of today's working artists I like, among others, Michael Kirwan, Teddy of Paris, Palanca, Benoit Prevot... and so many others whose work can be found through websites like that of the Tom of Finland Foundation and Delftboys.com. There is so much talent out there, and so much erotic imagination, it is always an inspiration to those of us who can only stand back and admire... and collect!

GM: Thank You!

RM: The pleasure was all mine.

Hard Boys available at Amazon.com

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Gods of Sport is the first ever artistic photography book dedicated to first-grade footballers and comprises a whopping 224 page collection of nude & shirtless images of 24 leading NRL and AFL stars who stripped off in aid of a good cause. Like the 2008/9 **Naked for a Cause** calendar, Gods of Sport benefits The McGrath Foundation, which raises funds to place breast care nurses across Australia and also campaigns to raise awareness of the importance of early detection of cancer among young women.

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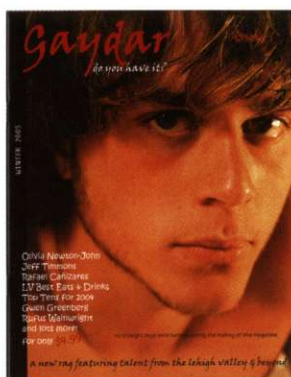
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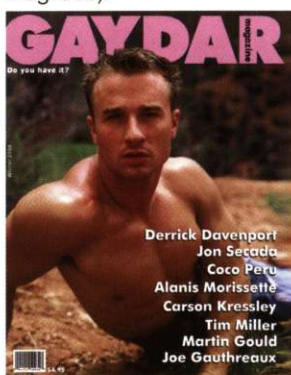


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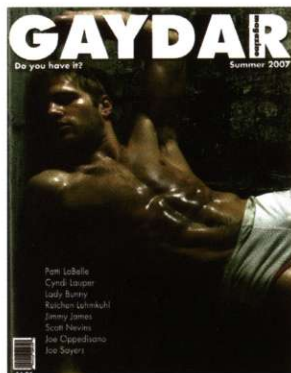
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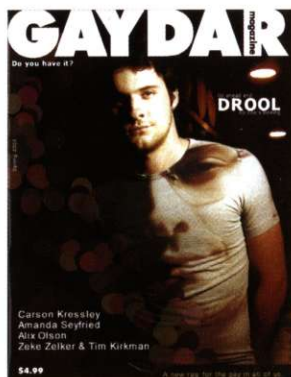
Winter 2005- Rufus Wainwright, Olivia Newton-John, Jeff Timmons (98 Degrees).



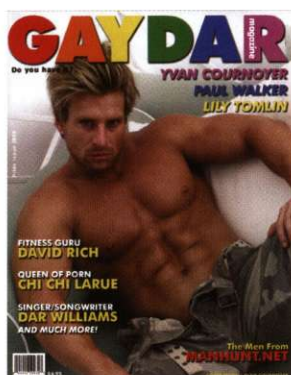
Winter 2006- Derrick Davenport, Coco Peru, Jon Secada, Tim Miller, Alanis Morissette



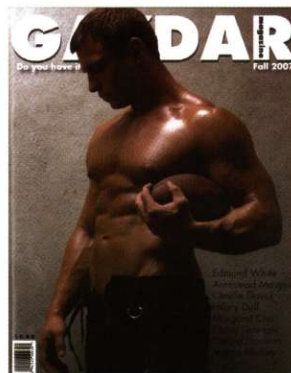
Summer 2007- Patti LaBelle, Cyndi Lauper, Lady Bunny, Reichen Lehmkuhl, Jimmy James, Scott Nevins, Joe Oppedisano, Joe Sayers



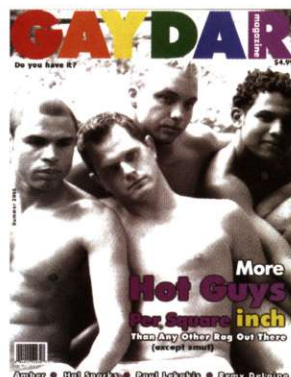
Spring 2005- Carson Kressley, Amanda Seyfried, Alix Olson



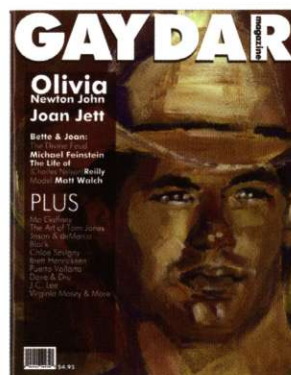
Pride 2006- David Rich, Chi Chi LaRue, David Rich, Dar Williams, Manhunt, Lily Tomlin, Paul Walker



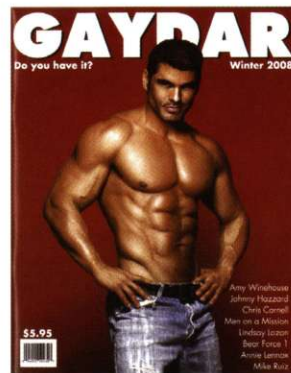
Fall 2007- Edmund White, Armistead Maupin, Charlie David, Hilary Duff, Margaret Cho, Farley Granger, Thelma Houston, Jeremy Mulkey



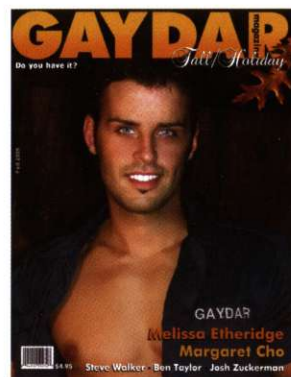
Summer 2005- Amber, Hal Sparks (QAF), Paul Lekakis, Remy DeLaine



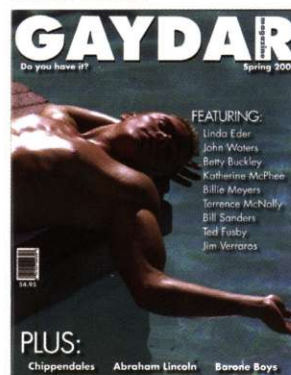
Winter 2007- Olivia Newton-John, Joan Jett, Michael Feinstein, Charles Nelson Reilly, Mo'Gaffney, Jason & deMarco, Chloe Sevigny, Bette Davis & Joan Crawford, Tom Jones



Winter 2008- Amy Winehouse, Johnny Hazzard, Chris Cornell, Lindsay Lozon, Annie Lennox, Bear Force 1, Mike Ruiz



Fall 2005- Melissa Etheridge, Margaret Cho, Josh Zuckerman, Ben Taylor, Steve Walker



Spring 2007- Linda Eder, John Waters, Betty Buckley, Katherine McPhee, Billie Meyers, Terrence McNally, Jim Verraros, Abraham Lincoln, Chippendales

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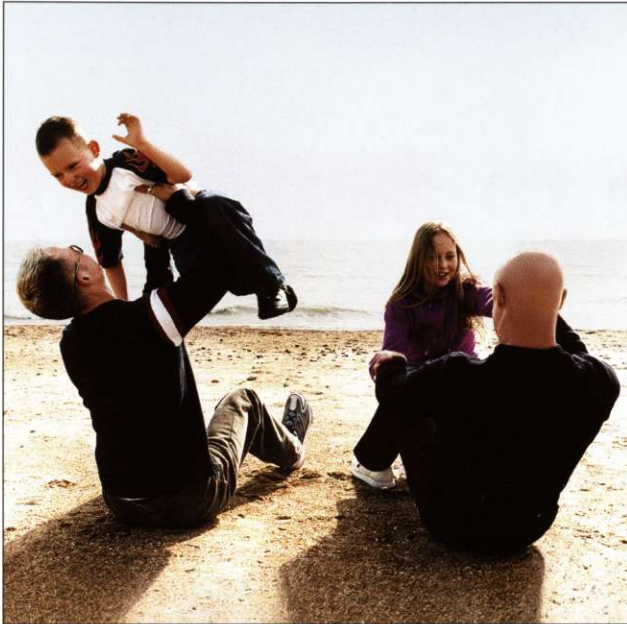
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